





MADISON BATTLES CHARLESTOWN
TO THE END IN 67-58 LOSS **PAGE B1**

THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025

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NEWSSTAND • \$1.25

Innkeeper’s tax collections up 5.4% for another record year

BY BOB DEMAREE
Innkeeper’s tax collections in Jefferson County set another record in 2024 with \$771,384.92 collected, an increase of 5.4% over 2023.
The final tally for last year was announced at Monday’s meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Tourism, an increase that came in spite of a decrease in room occupancy. “Higher daily rates helped push the innkeeper’s tax collections up,” said Visit Madison Inc. Executive Director Andrew Forrester.
Still, overall the numbers were

good and reflect another successful year for tourism in Jefferson County. “The strong collection numbers are a validation of the hard work of our tourism partners who provide great experiences that visitors come to enjoy,” Forrester said. “I’m excited to work with JCBT to invest these dollars in the most impactful ways to develop and promote Madison as the best place to visit, work, and live.”
Innkeeper’s tax collections have increased steadily since 2021 — \$537,606.48 in 2021, \$641,201.51 in 2022 and \$732,014.21 in 2023. Collections did fall to \$310,685.14 in

2020, the year the COVID-19 pandemic forced cancellations of all festivals and most events. Before COVID-19, the county’s best innkeeper’s tax collection year was \$425,682.31 in 2019.
Commissioner David Bramer, who is the JCBT treasurer, said the fund balance for the board is currently \$578,740.09. Among the expenditures earmarked for 2025 include \$450,000 for community partnership grants, an increase over \$350,000 in 2024. JCBT will also allocate \$351,520 to VMI, a 4% increase over last year as part of the annual increases agreed

upon in a three-year contract that ends Dec. 31.
“It looks like we’re in a healthy spot going into 2025,” JCBT President Trevor Crafton said.
“When we started a few years ago, we had a huge surplus. We don’t have a huge surplus but we still have a fairly healthy surplus,” said Bramer. “That may be something we want to discuss as we go along in the year.”
Bramer also noted that might be a topic best discussed after the first few months of 2025 to better understand how innkeeper’s tax collections are being

impacted by an increase in the innkeeper’s tax rate from 5% to 8% — the first rate hike since 1987. Half of that 3% increase is slated to be earmarked for tourism infrastructure projects.
Forrester said Placer.ai data showed 270,000 unique visitors to Madison in 2024 with 1.1 million visits, which he stated indicates “great loyalty” with visitors returning to the city an average of four times during the year. He said the unique visitor total for 2023 was 281,500.

SEE **TAX/PAGE A8**



Evelyn Rai Blunt strolled through the middle aisle of the sanctuary at Trinity United Methodist Church during one of her songs at Monday’s service to commemorate the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

King’s message of hope and love shared at tribute service

BY BOB DEMAREE
A message of hope for love of all people in the world was shared at Monday’s service to commemorate the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday at Trinity United Methodist Church.
The event also highlighted the music of the Civil Rights Movement that King led until his assassi-

nation April 4, 1958 at the age of 39.
Sue Livers, organizer of the program, noted “Music was such an integral part of the Civil Rights Movement.”
She also referenced King’s “I Have a Dream” speech that he delivered Aug. 28, 1963, noting it was drawn from material he had used in sermons and other

speeches for many years. From that speech, King said, “I still have a dream, a dream deeply rooted in the American dream — one day this nation will rise up and live up to its creed, ‘We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men are created equal.’ I have a dream.”

SEE **KING/PAGE A3**

CHARLIE’S BEAT

Learning the Anatomy of a Song

The beating heart of Indiana’s Music City is the consistent weekly live shows that happen in our many bars and venues. But the soul of our music scene is the special events and moments that transpire around the periphery. Things like the House of Jane Songwriter Series. The little boutique concerts that pop up at The SPOT art gallery, or the annual Obscure Neil Young night at Thomas Family Winery.
A good case in point is the “Anatomy of a Song” workshops being put on by the Kindred Folk



CHARLIE ROHLFING
CHARLIE’S BEAT

Society. Quoting from their flyer, “Whether you’re a beginner or a pro, you will learn about writing, arranging, performing and recording during this eight week course.” They posted it on Facebook and all 16 slots filled up within 24 hours.
Jane Vonderheide of Kindred Folk explains, “Part of our mission is to not only bring live original music to town, but also to foster the creation and performance of new music.”
Robert Reynolds was kind enough to offer to lead the workshop, so that was an opportunity we obviously couldn’t

pass up.”
Robert Reynolds, for those who may not be familiar, is one of the founding members of the Grammy-winning band The Mavericks. Robert was a professional songwriter in Nashville back in the ’90s, so he understands the process and what it takes to make a successful song.
“They paid me a nice salary to write 12 songs a year,” says Robert. “That might not sound like a lot to the uninitiated, but believe me, it can be harder than you think. I’m looking forward to sharing the process with the people in this workshop.”

SEE **SONG/PAGE A7**

Hanover to address traffic near Southwestern schools

BY BOB DEMAREE
Traffic and safety concerns at Sharon Drive during school pickup times at Southwestern Jefferson County Schools brought Bailee Schmidt to Tuesday’s Hanover Town Council to find a solution.
“This issue has persisted for over a decade and it’s time for a solution,” said Schmidt, who resides in the neighborhood. “Sharon Drive is a narrow dead end street that was never designed to handle school traffic. Parents park along our streets during school pickup times causing significant problems to residents.”

Town Council President Debbie Kroger said the matter warrants a meeting between the town council, school representative and town police officers to find a solution. “I understand your frustration,” she said, stating they will work towards arranging the meeting in the next two weeks.
David Miller, a former resident of Smith Lane, added there is also traffic congestion in the subdivision west of the schools, where Spruce Lane goes to the Hanover Community Park.
“Every day you cannot leave your house between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. because you couldn’t get through the neighborhood because cars are backed up on Jackson Lane, and all the back to Clifford Duke Drive,” Miller said. “You cannot get through. So, if you stop it over there (at Sharon Drive), you’ve got to stop it over here.”
Kroger said she recognizes that problem as well. “I agree that we need to address both” locations, she said.
Hanover Police Sergeant Kyle Pence said, “There has to be a solution. We just have to figure it out.”
“I appreciate as a parent the crosswalks that have been put in” on Main Cross Street to make it safer to cross there, but there the traffic issues need to be addressed, Miller said. “Somebody is going to get hurt over

here, and I don’t know how you stop it.”
Town Council member Jane Stormer said, “In my life, I’ve visited hundreds of schools, and each school has its own individual pickup, drop off challenges. So, I am sure this situation is not unique.”
Stormer suggested having discussions with other schools “to find what they’ve done to resolve it ... Usually when I visited schools that were in neighborhoods with densely populated with houses around, nine times out of 10 there was permit parking in the streets around the school, so it was easier for law enforcement to enforce ticketing ... We have to find out how to get an accountability system that works.”
In other business, the council:
• Approved \$15,326.98 for purchase of a conveyor belt for the sewage treatment plant to replace one that’s no longer functioning.
• Stormer reported on an outdoor Fitness Court that has been presented through the National Fitness Campaign to the county’s Health and Human Relations Commission. She said a location is being considered in Jefferson County, and inquired about the council’s thoughts on potentially placing one in Hanover, perhaps at the community park.
The cost can range from \$150,000 to \$250,000, and if the town were to move forward, grant opportunities would need to be sought to pay for the project. Grants are available from the National Fitness Campaign to pay for a portion of the facility. Council Vice President Treva Shelton said community input would need to be sought.
• Stormer discussed lowering the speed limit on State Road 56 to establish a 30 mph speed limit through town. With discussions about potential speed bumps, particularly on Volz Drive where there

SEE **TRAFFIC/PAGE A8**

Firefighters battle brutal conditions at Milton fire

BY COURIER STAFF REPORT

Firefighters from four area departments battled brutally cold weather for several hours to fight a fire on Rodgers Road in Trimble County Monday.

The call came in a 10:06 a.m. at 58 Rodgers Road, located just off Pecks Pike about 7 miles south of Milton Fire and Rescue Station 1. By the time crews arrived on scene they found a fully-engulfed, working structure fire but the residents were safely out of the home.

Firefighters from four departments battled 10 degree temperatures to overcome the weather conditions and extinguish the blaze with Milton calling for mutual assistance from Bedford Fire & Rescue in Trimble County as well as Madison Engine No. 1 and Madison Township fire departments in Indiana.

“It was extremely cold and nothing wanted to work right,” said Milton Assistant Chief Ben Webb. “There was a hydrant about 100 yards from the scene and it worked but we had to work with a lot of other things to get them to work in those conditions.”

He said water quickly formed ice on the equipment — and the firefighters — weighing them down and making “everything just that much more difficult.”

Firefighters worked about 8 hours to get the fire out and, although the home was a total loss, the fire was prevented from spreading to other nearby structures. The fire is still



Milton Fire & Rescue photo

Firefighters from Milton, Bedford, Madison and Madison Township responded to Monday’s house fire on Rodgers Road in Trimble County. Firefighters battled the blaze for about eight hours in 10-degree weather.

under investigation but the preliminary cause appears to be a faulty portable heater because the fire seemed to originate in that area.

A total of 18 firefighters responded initially — four from Milton, five from Bedford, three from Madison Engine 1 and six from Madison Township — with

more arriving as they got off work or were able to get to the scene.

“A big thanks to Bedford Fire & Rescue, Madison Engine 1,

and Madison Township for their assistance,” Milton Fire & Rescue posted on its Facebook page along with photos of the response.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER

LODGINGS

January 22, 2025
Christopher Ryan Sands, 27, Madison, to served 118 days jail, concurrent, on a court-ordered sentencing for parole violation on drug and trespassing convictions. No bond.

January 23, 2025
Nicole Renee Taylor, 38, Deputy, Indiana, for Unlawful Possession or Use of a Legend Drug, a Level 6 felony. Released on own recognizance.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT

SENTENCINGS

January 21, 2025
William R. Clark, 20, Milton, Kentucky, to amended charges of Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days at Indiana Department of Correction on the drug charge and 180 days jail on the theft charge, concurrent, with credit for

34 days served and 146 days suspended to unsupervised probation plus \$789 in fees and court costs.

James Edward Walters Jr., 49, Hanover, for Theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail with credit for 2 days jail served and 363 days suspended to unsupervised probation plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Ruben Gaitan III, 49, Madison, to an amended charge of Leaving the Scene of an Accident, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, all suspended to supervised probation plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs and restitution in an amount to be determined.

Mark C. McAttee, 60, Hanover, for Leaving the Scene of an Accident, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 6 days served and 174 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs and restitution in an amount to be determined.

George M. Kaffenberger, 68, Lawrenceburg, Indiana, for Residential Entry, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 600 days at Indiana Department of Correction, fully executed; with

credit for 238 days jail served plus \$389 in fees and court costs and No Contact Order to remain in effect.

Landon Thomas Carter, 21, Bedford, Kentucky, to amended charges of Operating a Vehicle Without a Valid License, a Class A misdemeanor; and Reckless Driving, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 2 days jail on each count, concurrent, plus \$289.50 in fees and court costs.

Todd Michael Black Jr., 39, Madison, to n amended charge of Unlawful Possession of a Legend Drug, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 365 days at Indiana Department of Correction, fully executed, with credit for 150 days jail served plus \$389 in fees and court costs.

Tyler Keith Holder, 22, Hanover, to amended charges of Intimidation, a Level 6 felony; and Operating While Intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 912 days at Indiana Department of Correction on the felony concurrent to 365 days jail on the misdemeanor with credit for 164 days jail served and placed on 748 days supervised probation plus \$789.50 in fees and court costs and 30-day loss of driver’s license.

Zachary Thomas Kiser, 33, Madison, to an amended charge of Strangulation, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 545 days at Indiana

Department of Correction with credit for 12 days jail served and 533 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$639 in fees and court costs and No Contact Order to remain in effect.

Cortino Allen, Hanover, to an amended charge of Battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 74 days jail served and 106 days suspended to unsupervised probation plus \$289 in fees and court costs.

Garrett Lee Madden, 24, Madison to amended charges of Theft and Possession of Marijuana, both Class A misdemeanors and Operating While Intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail on the two Class A misdemeanors and 60 days jail on the Class C misdemeanor, concurrent and all suspended to supervised probation plus \$389.50 in fees and court costs, restitution in an amount to be determined, loss of driver’s license for 90 day and No Contact Order to remain in effect.

Angela Marie Clark, 50, Milton, Kentucky, to an amended charge of Identity Deception, a Level 6 felony. Sentenced to 730 days at Indiana Department of Correction, fully executed, with credit for 92 days jail served with sentencing consecutive to a balance of 510 days for drug court probation violation plus \$389 in fees and court costs.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

JEFFERSON COUNTY

January 17, 2025
Dustin R. Dickmeyer to Andrew Clark, 417 Mouser Street, Madison.

Tiffany Paiz to Nancy L. Cheatham, 1850 Locust Street, Madison.

Jerry L. Barnhart II and Sarah Lucas to Dustin Dickmeyer and Jessica Dickmeyer, approximately 2.25 acres at 3996 West 500 North, Madison.

Lime LLC to Rick Lacour and Linda Lacour, 611A Mulberry Street and 611B Mulberry Street, Madison.

J&B Properties and Bill L. Nighbert (living trust) to Sergio Garcia Gutierrez and Jasmine Garcia, 280 West Mockingbird Court, Madison.

Don Heiderman, Lonnie D. Collins, Bill L. Nighbert and June H. Nighbert (living trusts) to German American Bank Trustee and German American Bank (trustee), 1027 Park Avenue, Madison.

Elizabeth M. Gatewood to Harold W. Mason and Kelly M. Mason, 2329 Craigmont Street, Madison (\$142,000).

Don Heiderman, Lonnie D. Collins, Bill L. Nighbert (estate) and Bill L. Nighbert & June H. Nighbert (living trust) to German American Bank (trustee), 280 West Mockingbird Court, Madison.

June H. Nighbert Revocable Trust and Bill L. Nighbert Revocable Trust (living trusts), Robert L. Pimlott and Lonnie D. Collins (trustees) to Robby Allen Dew and Haley R. Nighbert, 300 Highland Avenue, Madison.

January 21, 2025

Mark H. Ashbrook (trustee) and Russell G. & Joyce H. Ashbrook Joint Revocable Trust to Mark H. Ashbrook, 156 Smith Lane, Hanover.

Diego Gonzales and Karmen S. Gonzales to KDRR Properties LLC, 2455 Lanier Drive Madison.

January 22, 2025

George Hassfurder and Norman L. Hassfurder (estate) to ALH Farms LLC, approximately 29 acres ar 6700+ North Little Rest Farm Road, Madison.

Brice Gray, Brent Gray Dennis Allen Fray (estate) and Linda Gray to Joint Revocable Trust Agreement of Carroll K. Gray and Jean U. Gray, approximately 3.6 acres at 10000+ West State Road 256, Lexington.


Carroll K. Gray, Jean U. Gray and Joint Revocable Trust Agreement of Carroll K. Gray and Jean U. Gray to Jeanna Gray Carter, approximately 3.6 acres at 10000+ West State Road 256, Lexington.

Judith Miller and William G. Miller to William G. Miller, 1783 East Key 2 Circle, Madison.

William G. Miller to David M. Miller, Chad E. Miller, Danielle J. Miller, Maggie L. Miller and Abbott R. Miller (transferees death), 1783 East Key 2 Circle, Madison.

Cristal Rios to Roberto Rios Yanez, 4 acres at 5924 West State road 256, Madison.

Michael J. Osinski and Jacqueline E. Osinski to Michael J. Osinski and Jacqueline E. Osinski and Alexandria Hubert and Nicole Osinski (transferees death) 1581 East Equestrian Court, Madison.



THE MADISON COURIER

(USPS 325000)
FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025

Published 2 days each week on Tuesday and Friday.

Periodical postage paid at Madison, IN and additional mailing offices.
Please send address changes to
The Madison Courier, 310 West St., Madison, IN 47250
812-265-3641

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2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue
Noon Monday for Thursday issue
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

VOL. 225 • ISSUE NO. 7

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:51 a.m.
Sunset: 5:55 p.m.
Temperature: High 35, Low 11, Mean 23.0, Deficit 7.2
Precipitation since last published: .0
Precipitation, January 2025: 2.70
Precipitation, 2025: 2.70
Barometer: 29.92, Falling
River Level at Clifty Creek: 422.94, Falling
Forecast: Saturday: Partly cloudyHigh 43/Low 30; Sunday: Cloudy High 38/Low 22; Monday: Sunny High 42/Low 31; Tuesday: Mostly sunny High 48/Low 31; Wednesday: Mostly sunny High 49/Low 30.

LOTTERY

INDIANA
Hoosier Lotto: 1-4-10-19-40-42 (1/22). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$38.4 million. Next Drawing (1/25).
Cash Five: 6-11-13-29-31 (1/22)
Cash 4 Life: 4-7-20-45-56 CB: 1 (1/22)

KENTUCKY
Cash Ball: 4-5-7-35 CB 24 (1/22)
Lucky For Life: 24-25-37-44-45 LB:

9 (1/22)
MEGAMILLIONS: 27-30-56-64-65 MB: 22, MP 4 (1/21). Next Jackpot: \$28 million. Next Drawing (1/24)
POWERBALL: 5-6-27-40-49 PB: 5, PP 2 (1/22). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$46 million. Next Drawing (1/25)
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 1-12-39-40-52 PB: 15 (1/22). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (1/25)

BIRTHDAYS

Editor’s Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

JANUARY 24
Regina Humphrey

JANUARY 25
Frederica Congleton
Pat Lanman
Marc Totten
Jeffery Jenkins
Buddy Gaw

JANUARY 26
George Ayler — 76
Tina Mitchell

JANUARY 29
Teresa Kelly

County BZA, Plan Commission rehire Magrath as attorney

BY BOB DEMAREE

Patrick Magrath was rehired as attorney for the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and Plan Commission at their annual joint meeting on Tuesday to approve his contract for 2025.

The vote was unanimous, but before it was taken BZA board member Fred Stilwell inquired about instances when Magrath might not be available to attend meetings — times when the boards need certainty that their legal counsel will be present. In particular, he referenced the Nov. 19 BZA meeting when the decision was made to deny Orion Renewable Energy Group LLC's application for a solar project in Saluda Township.

“It was kind of a bad situation for us that night when you weren't there,” Stilwell said. “Is there someone you could hand some paperwork to in the firm that could show up just in case their attorney would want to litigate something, and you weren't there?”

Stilwell said he understands that “things come up. Nobody is throwing you in front of the bus. Is there a possibility that could happen?”

Magrath said that other attorneys in his firm, West Sixth Law Attorneys, “can step in if there is availability,” and noted that Merritt Alcorn, a founding partner in the firm, has in the past stood in for him with the BZA and Plan

Commission, which is actually part of the contract.

Magrath said what happened on the day of that BZA meeting when the solar decision was made was a result of an unexpected situation in which the timing made it impossible to address. “That particular meeting, it was not my intent” to not be there, he said. “I didn't have a conflict on my calendar. It was just that the issue that I was involved in ended up running much, much longer than expected.”

Magrath said the incident involved a court-ordered mediation in which it was “well established that I had to be out of these at 4:30 p.m. at the latest” knowing that the BZA meeting

was at 5 p.m. “Then the case got to the point that it was going to be settled, but we had multiple parties involved, and if you left without everybody signing the paperwork then it meant that something could fall through. In that instance, it was all hands on deck. No one leaves until we get signatures on everything.”

Magrath updated that his law firm has been renamed West Sixth Law Attorneys, replacing the previous name of Alcorn, Sage, Schwartz and Magrath LLP. He said rules have been changed to allow a more branded name since the State of Indiana no longer stipulates law firms contain the names of the partners. In the past as partners changed,

the firm's name would have to be adjusted. “We'd have to change the letterhead and the website. Now, we've got a branded name without having to go through all of that” when partners come and go at the firm, he said.

The name, West Sixth, is derived from the firm's location at 1 West Sixth Street on the corner of West Street and Sixth Street in downtown Madison.

The BZA also met in executive session for approximately 25 minutes after the joint meeting to discuss a lawsuit Orion has filed against the board following the decision to deny Orion's solar application, which Orion has characterized as an appeal of that decision.



Bob Demaree
Pastor Jermaine Lovings, of Louisville, referenced famous quotes by Martin Luther King Jr. at Monday's service to commemorate King's life, saying they presented a message of love for all people.

KING

FROM PAGE A1

Singer Evelyn Rai Blunt said, “We are here to

celebrate and commemorate but I'm a little bit overwhelmed because in our nation, it's 2025 and it still feels like 1964. Is that true?”

SEE KING/PAGE A8

Switzerland Homecoming Court



Switzerland County High School will crown its Homecoming King and Queen when the Pacers boys basketball team hosts Rising Sun Friday night in Vevay. The homecoming court includes (from left): Front — Hannah Thomas, Bri Stow, Carlee Boggs, Claire Rogers and McKira Scudder; Back — Roman Hite, Kadyr Riley, Carson Byrd, Carson Griffith and Cam Craig.

Tammy Hayes

Madison projecting 16.5% cost increase for property, liability insurance

BY BOB DEMAREE

A challenging market for insurance is leading to what potentially could be a 16.5% increase in what the City of Madison pays for property and liability insurance this year.

The Board of Public Works and Safety approved at Tuesday's meeting up to \$430,000 for the city's property and liability coverage for the year, pending finalization of the exact cost due Jan. 24, the day Madison's 2024 insurance ends and the new policy is slated to begin.

It has been recommended that the city contract with Selective Insurance for liability coverage and Chubb Insurance for property insurance. Selective would be a new insurer for the city while Chubb has past history insuring the city including just last year. In 2024, the city's liability coverage was by Trident Insurance. Overall, the property and liability insurance cost the county \$368,946 last year, an increase over 2023 when it was \$339,304.

Greg Goodknight, representing Gardner Insurance and acting as broker for the city's insurance, said Madison is regarded well as an entity for insurance coverage, but the current conditions are driving up costs for everybody.

“The city is performing very well from loss experience perspective” with

controls, risk control and standard operating procedures that are all beneficial and make the city marketable to insurance companies where “alternatives are not good in today's world,” said Goodknight. “Even the good is not good.”

Andy Brown, senior vice president with Gregory and Appel Insurance, said there currently is a “litigious climate in our communities” and other factors that are making it more difficult to insure public entities. He said there has also been a “contraction of the marketplace with the number of carriers” for city and county governments declining. “There has been complete consolidation of the market where these public entity carriers have completely exited the public entity space.”

Goodknight said the city did have some options in deciding its insurance carriers which “is a huge credit to the city; a lot don't have that in today's marketplace. This particular city does an awful lot. We know that, which we're proud of that, but there's a lot of exposure that goes along with that, from the law enforcement to the parks, to general operations, water, sewer” and more.

He estimated Gardner Insurance has served the city of Madison for 42 years as the broker for the

insurance. “In that time, there was an historical norm, but that's no longer the norm,” Goodknight said. “It's every year get out to the market, and find the best terms that exist.”

However, Brown said he sees hope that the city can build on its relationship with Selective Insurance, being the first time Madison has had that insurer. “Nobody has a crystal ball,” he said. “Hopefully this is a carrier that the city can grow with, bank on it, be there, and a stable relationship for years to come.”

Madison Mayor Bob Courtney said the city has “worked really hard for managing the risk across all forms of liability, property and casualty, cyber security and putting the things in place that help our insurance renewals in a very, very difficult market ...

“We're not looking at a non-renewal like some local governments are getting but we are looking at, because of the casualties and what they call social inflation, the tremendous amounts of litigation with public entities,” Courtney added. “We have a police department that has a lot of liability attached to it, as well as all of our fleets of vehicles, and streets and sidewalks, and all of that exposes us for liability purposes, so we are working to get our insurance down

as low as much as possible.”

Deputy Mayor Mindy McGee said, “Our goal is to make that premium reduced ... We have an

awesome team in Gardner and Gregory and Appel,” she said. “We call on them whenever we're thinking of doing some stupid new thing to find out what our

risk is, and if we're going to have coverage for it,” she said in thanking them for their “partnership and the help and the expertise.”



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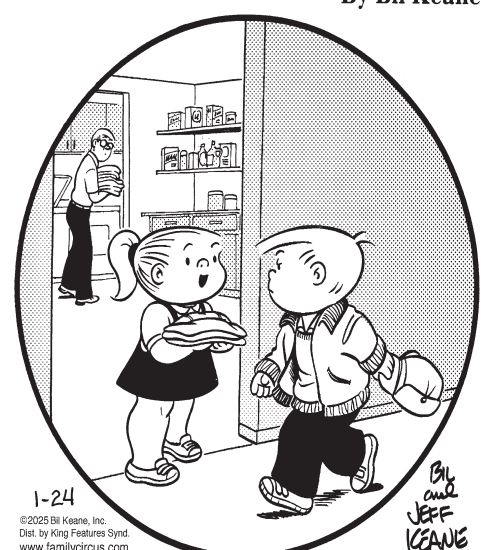


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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane




1-24

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“Daddy did the laundry and now we all have pink underwear.”

Bil Keane
JEFF KEANE

DENNIS THE MENACE



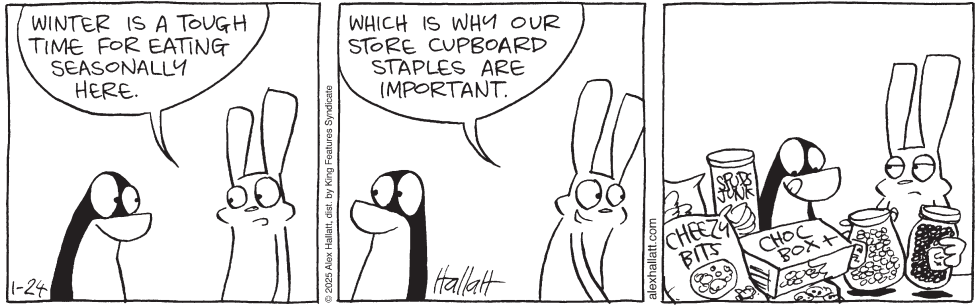
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“WHAT WILL YOU THINK OF NEXT?”

“ACTUALLY, I DON’T WANT TO KNOW!”

ARCTIC CIRCLE



WINTER IS A TOUGH TIME FOR EATING SEASONALLY HERE.

WHICH IS WHY OUR STORE CUPBOARD STAPLES ARE IMPORTANT.

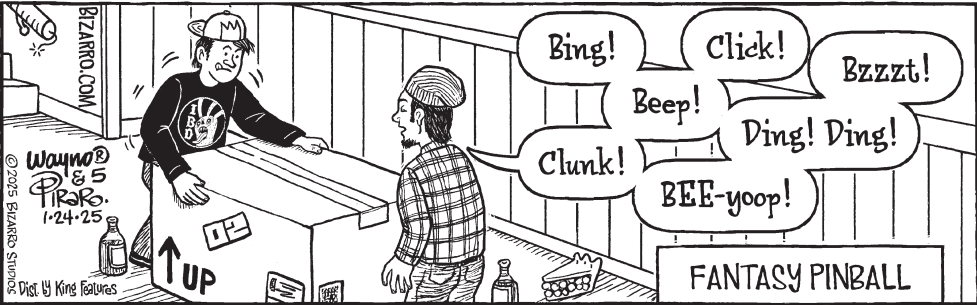
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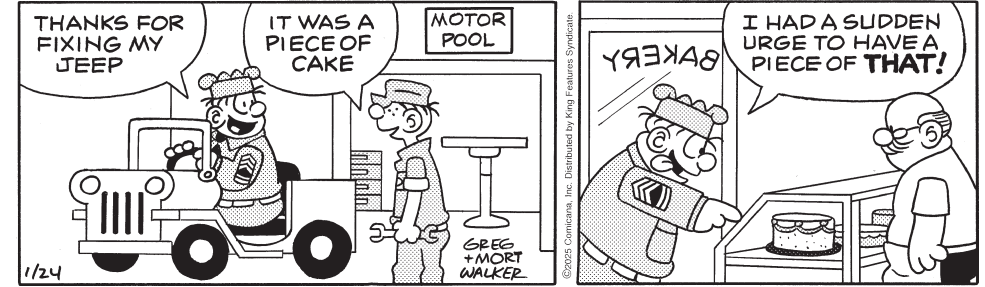
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Bing! Click! Beep! Ding! Ding! Bzzzt! Clunk! BEE-yoop!

FANTASY PINBALL

BEETLE BAILEY



THANKS FOR FIXING MY JEEP

IT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE

MOTOR POOL

1-24

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GREG + MORT WALKER

BEETLE BAILEY

I HAD A SUDDEN URGE TO HAVE A PIECE OF THAT!

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



THE WIND

This next one is a jingle I call "Sea Breeze."

HE REALLY WANTS TO PLAY THE SAXOPHONE, BUT THOSE ARE HARD TO COME BY.

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BLONDIE



WOW, I LOVE THIS NEW DRESS!

IT REALLY SUITS YOU!

THAT'S A DRESS THAT SAYS, "I AM WOMAN, HEAR ME ROAR!"

ESPECIALLY WHEN MY HUSBAND FINDS OUT HOW MUCH I SPENT ON IT!

1-24

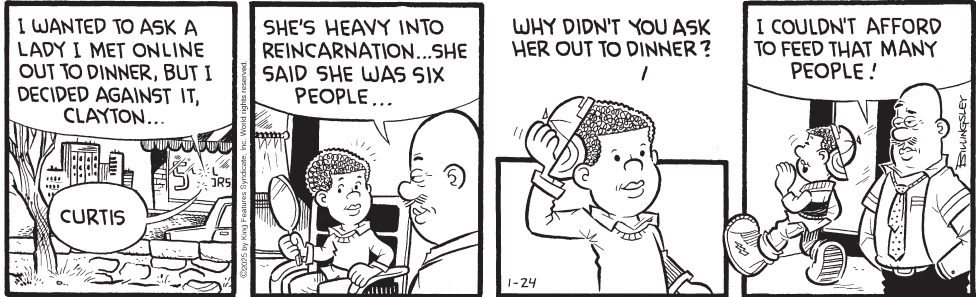
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BLONDIE

DAG

OOH, I'LL HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT!

CURTIS



I WANTED TO ASK A LADY I MET ONLINE OUT TO DINNER, BUT I DECIDED AGAINST IT, CLAYTON...

SHE'S HEAVY INTO REINCARNATION...SHE SAID SHE WAS SIX PEOPLE...

WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK HER OUT TO DINNER?

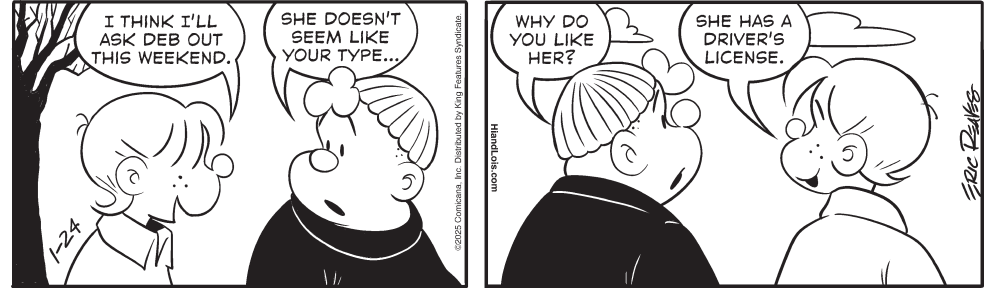
I COULDN'T AFFORD TO FEED THAT MANY PEOPLE!

1-24

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CURTIS

HI & LOIS



I THINK I'LL ASK DEB OUT THIS WEEKEND.

SHE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOUR TYPE...

WHY DO YOU LIKE HER?

SHE HAS A DRIVER'S LICENSE.

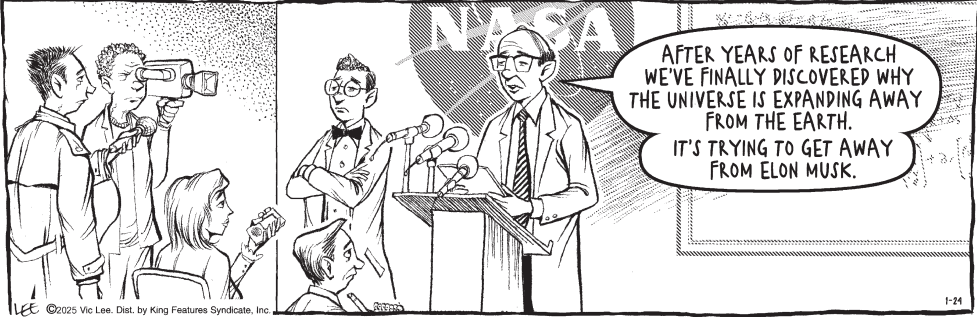
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HI

LOIS

PARDON MY PLANET



AFTER YEARS OF RESEARCH WE'VE FINALLY DISCOVERED WHY THE UNIVERSE IS EXPANDING AWAY FROM THE EARTH. IT'S TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM ELON MUSK.

1-24

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ZITS



JEREMY HAS BEEN REALLY DISTRACTED THIS WEEK.

SOMETHING MUST BE TROUBLING HIM.

SOMETHING THAT ONLY A MOTHER'S LOVE CAN SOOTHE.

OR HE MIGHT JUST LIKE BEING DISTRACTED.

HAHA! YOU MEN!

1-24

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ZITS

DUMPLINGS



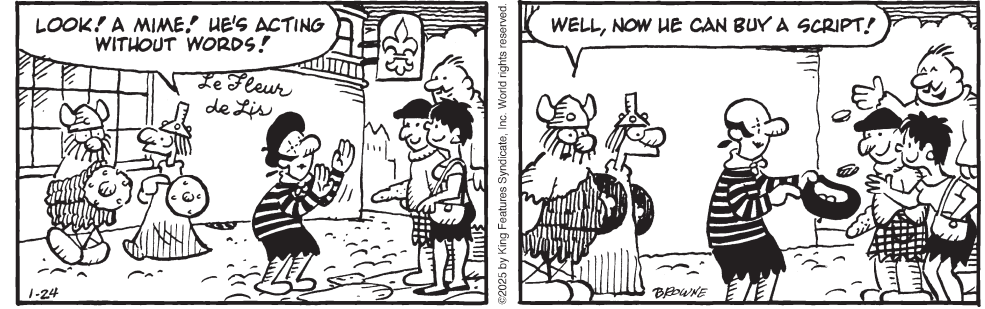
I MISS WATERMELONS.

1-24

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DUMPLINGS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LOOK! A MIME! HE'S ACTING WITHOUT WORDS!

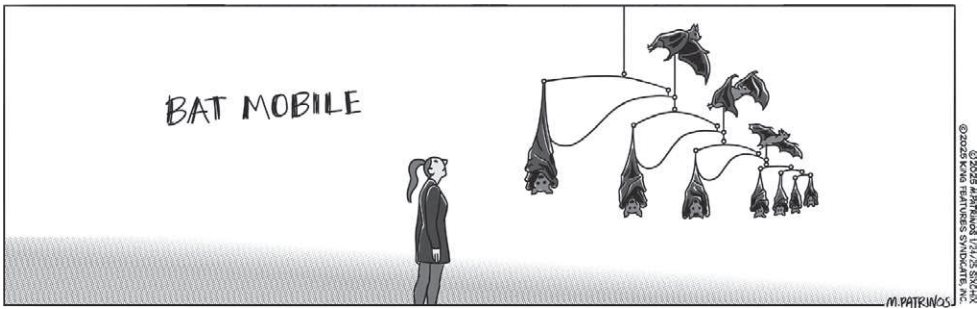
WELL, NOW HE CAN BUY A SCRIPT!

1-24

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HAGAR

SIX CHIX



BAT MOBILE

1-24

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SIX CHIX

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



IS TH' ABOMABLE SNOWMAN REAL, UNCA SNUFFY?

COURSE NOT, JUGHAID !! AIN'T NO SUCH THING !!

WHAT FOLKS IS SEEN' IS BIGFOOT !! HE CHANGES COLOR IN TH' WINTER LIKE SOME'A THEM RABBITS DO !!

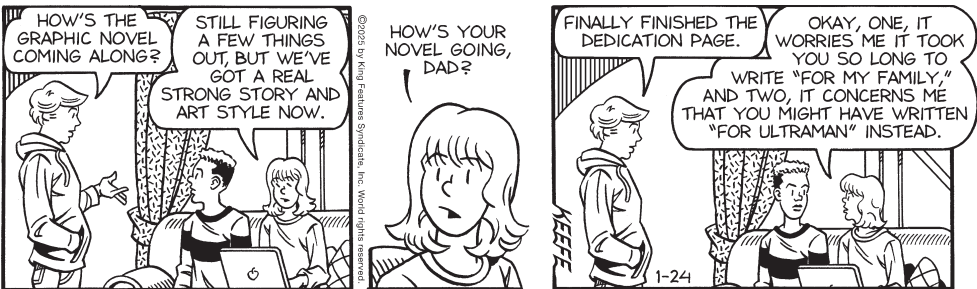
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BARNEY

SNUFFY

SALLY FORTH



HOW'S THE GRAPHIC NOVEL COMING ALONG?

STILL FIGURING A FEW THINGS OUT, BUT WE'VE GOT A REAL STRONG STORY AND ART STYLE NOW.

HOW'S YOUR NOVEL GOING, DAD?

FINALLY FINISHED THE DEDICATION PAGE.

OKAY, ONE, IT WORRIES ME IT TOOK YOU SO LONG TO WRITE "FOR MY FAMILY," AND TWO, IT CONCERNS ME THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE WRITTEN "FOR ULTRAMAN" INSTEAD.

1-24

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SALLY

DUSTIN



THOSE TWO HIT ON US LAST WEEK.

NOW I REMEMBER.

TOTAL LOSERS.

AT LEAST THE DUMB ONE HAS A JOB.

SHE THINKS YOU HAVE A JOB.

1-24

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DUSTIN

MUTTS



HEY, MILLIE, WHAT, IS THE CAT GOING TO HIBERNATE THE WHOLE WINTER!?

HA! HA! HA! HA!

NOT IF THEY DON'T PUT LOCKS ON THESE DOORS.

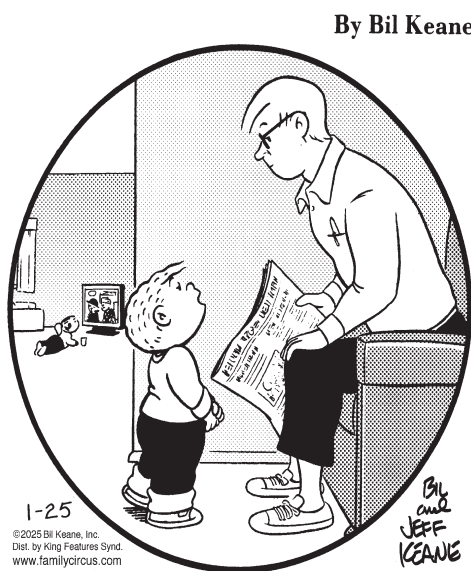
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MUTTS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

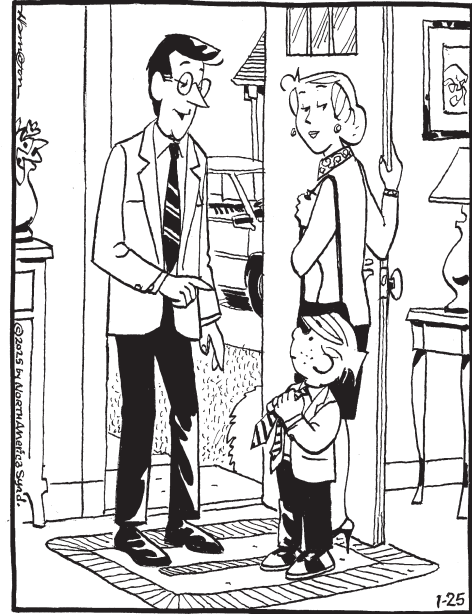


1-25

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www.familycircus.com

"In the old movies, why did people only wear black and white and gray?"

DENNIS THE MENACE



1-25

"YES, DENNIS... I'M SURE THAT WON'T GIVE YOU WHIPLASH."

ARCTIC CIRCLE



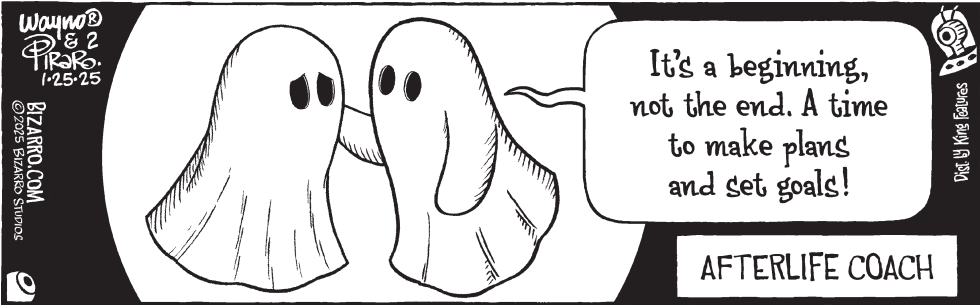
I TOLD YOU YOUR PUBLIC EV CHARGER WOULD BE GOOD FOR BUSINESS, HECTOR.

YOU MAKE MONEY ON THE CHARGING AND THE COFFEE.

OH DEAR. BUT I DO HAVE A TIRE REPLACEMENT SERVICE OUT BACK.

THOSE ARE MY TIRES... SO THEY'LL FIT PERFECTLY.

BIZARRO



Wayne & Piro. 1-25-25

It's a beginning, not the end. A time to make plans and set goals!

AFTERLIFE COACH

BEETLE BAILEY

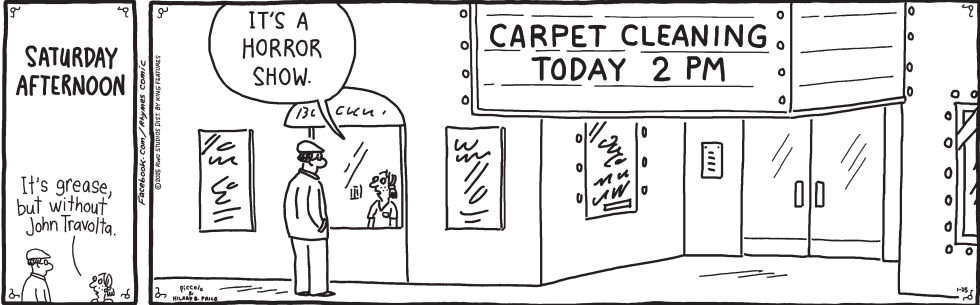


COME ON! WHAT A STUPID PLAY!! WHY DID YOU DO THAT ?!!

ARRGH! I DIDN'T KNOW COSMO WAS SUCH A PASSIONATE FAN

HE'S PASSIONATE ABOUT HIS BETS

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



SATURDAY AFTERNOON

IT'S A HORROR SHOW.

CARPET CLEANING TODAY 2 PM

BLONDIE



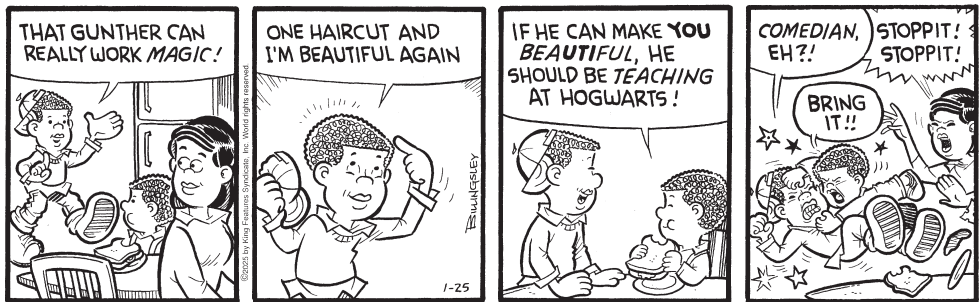
MR. B, HOW IS YOUR NAP WORKING OUT?

NOT SO HOT, ELMO

NO WORRIES, MR. B.

I'M STILL HERE, IF YOU WANT A BOTTLE OF WATER OR SOMETHING

CURTIS



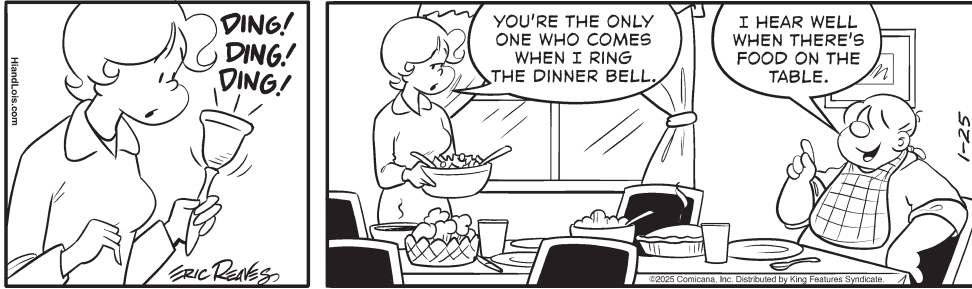
THAT GUNTHER CAN REALLY WORK MAGIC!

ONE HAIRCUT AND I'M BEAUTIFUL AGAIN

IF HE CAN MAKE YOU BEAUTIFUL, HE SHOULD BE TEACHING AT HOGWARTS!

COMEDIAN, EH?? STOPPIT! STOPPIT! BRING IT!!

HI & LOIS



DING! DING! DING!

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO COMES WHEN I RING THE DINNER BELL.

I HEAR WELL WHEN THERE'S FOOD ON THE TABLE.

PARDON MY PLANET



ASK NOT FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS ... IF IT'S IMPORTANT THEY'LL LEAVE A MESSAGE.

ZITS



GOT YOUR LIST READY?

ONE SEC.

OKAY... READY?

GO!

TAH-DAH! COLLEGES THAT I'D GO TO!

TAH-DAH! COLLEGES WE CAN AFFORD!

DUMPLINGS



JEEZ, LOOK AT YOUR CRAZY DOG. IT'S FREEZING OUT HERE, AND HE DOESN'T SEEM COLD AT ALL.

YEAH, IT'S AMAZING WHAT A LITTLE FUR CAN DO.

AND A LAYER OF FAT!

HEY!

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MERLIN GAVE ME A MAGIC FRIEND THAT VISITS BUT DOESN'T OVERSTAY HIS WELCOME!

I'D BEST BE GETTING BACK OUTSIDE NOW!

NICE!

SIX CHIX



More snow!

Kind of gives "snowbirds" a whole new meaning!

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH

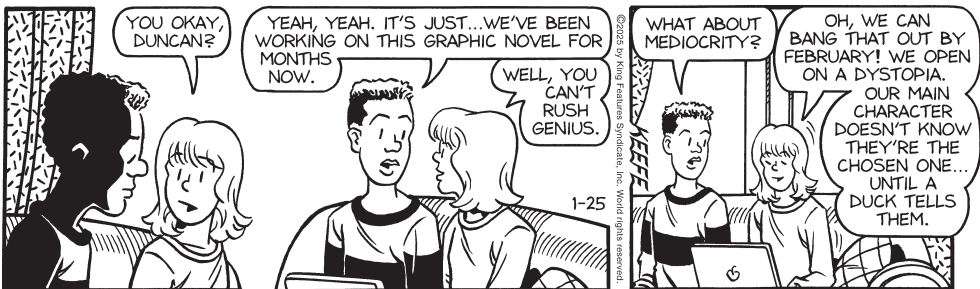


SO, TURNS OUT I WUZ WRONG--TH' CIRCUS AIN'T COMIN' TO HOOTIN' HOLLER, MAW !!

IT'S JEST ONE CLOWN !!

TOWN HALL WIF CONGRESSMAN WINDBAG TUESDAY 6 PM

SALLY FORTH



YOU OKAY, DUNCAN?

YEAH, YEAH. IT'S JUST...WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL FOR MONTHS NOW.

WELL, YOU CAN'T RUSH GENIUS.

WHAT ABOUT MEDIOCRITY?

OH, WE CAN BANG THAT OUT BY FEBRUARY! WE OPEN ON A DYSTOPIA. OUR MAIN CHARACTER DOESN'T KNOW THEY'RE THE CHOSEN ONE... UNTIL A DUCK TELLS THEM.

DUSTIN




CAREFUL. HAYDEN AND I WERE HAVING A SNOWBALL FIGHT AND HE MAY NOT KNOW IT'S OVER.

WHOA! NICE TRY!

IT'S A GOOD THING HE MISSED -- THAT THING WAS HUGE!

MUTTS



THAT HIBERNATION THING WAS JUST NOT FOR ME, EARL!

WHY'S THAT, MOOCH?

I MISSED MY NAPS.

OBITUARIES

Leota May Corya



Leota May Corya, 91, of Madison, passed away at 4:35 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, at Hickory Creek in Madison.

Born March 4, 1933, in North Vernon, she was the daughter of the late Garland and Irma (Oppelt) Fox. She married Roy Lee Corya Sr. in April of 1954, at the Vernon Baptist Church; he preceded her in death on Oct. 11, 1981.

Leota was a housewife and homemaker. She was a member of the Commiskey Baptist Church in Commiskey. Leota enjoyed watching NASCAR, puzzles, and blue grass music. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include her son, Roy Lee Corya Jr. of Madison; her daughters, Betty (Charlie) Spencer of Paris Crossing, Kathy (Charlie) McPeek of North Vernon, and Doris (Marshall) Graham of Liberty; brothers, Jacob (Sue) Fox of

Graham, Washington and Arthur (Joyce) Fox of Cleveland, TN; sister, Eloyse Money of Hymera; grandchildren, Angela (Mark) Paliotta of Clarksville, MD, Carrie (Jason) Koehler of Madison; Amanda (Nicholas) Heatwole of Yuma, AZ, Charles (Rupa) Spencer of Hanover, Emma McPeek of North Vernon, Brooke (Tyler) Grace of Columbus, Amy (Jeremy) Huntsman of Lebanon, Matthew (Stephanie) Graham of Van Buren, AR, and Sara (Craig) Elgin of North Banded, Oregon; 19 great-grandchildren; two

great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; daughter, Patricia Corya; brothers, Phillip and Lester Fox; sisters, Betty Garvey and Wilma Jones; and great-granddaughter, Naomi Spencer.

A funeral service for Leota will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at the Dove-Sharp & Rudicel Funeral Home and Cremation Service in North Vernon with the Rev. Dan Corbin and Rev. John Riggs officiating. The visitation for family and friends will be on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the time of the service at 1 p.m. Burial will follow in the Bear Creek Cemetery (Montgomery Township) in Commiskey.

Memorials may be made in honor of Leota through the funeral home to Gentiva Hospice.

Patricia Ellen Davison



Patricia Ellen Davison, age 92, of Madison, IN, entered this life on May 15, 1932, in Paris, IL, in Edgar County. She was the loving daughter of the late Rolly Earl and Mary Ellen Watkins Davison. She was a graduate of Madison High School. She worked as a secretary at Hoosier Hills Council, Boy Scouts of America for 20 years. She also worked at the Jefferson County Division of Family and Children for 24 years, retiring in July 1997. She obtained her Private Pilot License in 1969; she then participated in the 1970, Fairladies Annual Indiana Race sponsored by the Indiana Chapel of Ninty Nines sanctioned by the Federal Aeronautics Administration. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and was a member and past worthy matron of Eastern Star No. 530. Patricia died on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025, at 8:54 a.m., at her home in Madison, IN.

Patricia will be missed by her loving niece, Mickey Allen and her companion, Herschel Eddins of Oxnard, CA; her great niece, Mary Hopper and her husband, Mike; her great nephews, Richard Willis and his

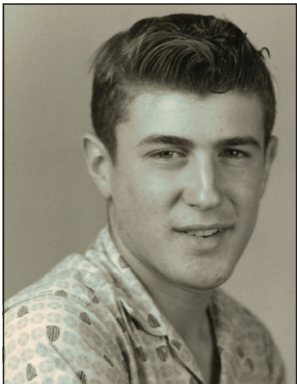
wife, Chantelle and Michio Wallace; her caregiver, Jackie Long of Madison, IN; several cousins from the east coast to the west coast.

She was preceded in death by her father, Rolly Earl Davison, her mother, Mary Ellen Watkins Davison, her nephew, Michael Wallace and his wife, Dayle, and her sister, Sue Wallace.

Graveside services will be conducted Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, at 2 p.m., by John Wallace at the Grandview Memorial Gardens, 9306 North U.S. 421 Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Grandview Memorial Gardens, 9306 North U.S. 421 Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Trinity United Methodist Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Stephen Lloyd ‘Steve’ Ferguson



Stephen Lloyd “Steve” Ferguson, age 77, of Madison, IN, and the son of the late Floyd V. and Helen Marie (Crider) Ferguson, was born on Sept. 7, 1947, in Madison. Steve was a member of the last graduating class of Dupont High School in 1965, and then attended Indiana Technical Training to pursue a certification in automotive mechanics. He was a car mechanic for the next five years and then began doing construction for 10 years. After moving to Indianapolis, he worked at Mayflower Moving for 15 years, before relocating back to Madison, and becoming a security guard at Arvin Sango, Inc. and Clifty Falls State Park. After retirement, Steve became a full-time songwriter, having produced countless songs through his company, Grab-A-Hoe Music LLC. He loved

old cars including his very first car, a 1951 Chrysler and the brand new 1969 Camaro that was his pride and joy. He loved listening to the Cincinnati Reds and Indiana University Basketball games on the radio. Most recently, he enjoyed drinking coffee while discussing politics at the Red Roaster with many friends. Steve was of the Baptist faith and enjoyed living a simple life. Mr. Ferguson passed away on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, at his residence in Madison.

His life will be

cherished by his brothers: Dennis Ferguson and his wife, Vera of Greenwood, IN, Brad Ferguson and his wife, Sheliah of Dupont, IN, and Jon Ferguson and his wife, Stacey of Plainfield, IN; and his nieces and nephews: Dane, David, Brenden, Joel, Alexander, Matthew, Timothy, Michael, Camille and Samuel. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers: Samuel George Ferguson and Daniel Ferguson; and his sister, Susan Ferguson.

Memorial services will be conducted at 3 p.m., on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025, at Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Vail Chapel, 117 Holt Drive, Madison. Friends and family may gather from 2 p.m., until the time of the service on Sunday at the funeral home.

Online condolences can be made at www.lytlewelty.com.

Tracey Allen Franks

Tracey Allen Franks, age 59, of Indianapolis, IN, was born on Nov. 26, 1965, in Seymour, IN, to parents Bruce and Virginia (Elliott) Franks. Tracey died on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025, at his home in Indianapolis, IN.

Tracey will be missed by his wife of 14 years, Anita Kay Erb Franks of Indianapolis, IN; his daughter, Sydney Franks (Nick Stackhouse) of Columbus, IN; his sons, Tristan Franks (fiancé, Alma Cima of Columbus, IN, Trace Franks (Kaylee Seniors) of Columbus, IN; his parents, Bruce Allen

and Virginia Lee “Jenny” Elliott Franks of Dupont, IN; his brothers, Todd Franks of Louisville, KY, Troy Franks (Chelsey) of Fallon, NV; his nephew and his niece, Colton and Caidey Franks of Fallon, NV; he is also survived by step children, Mikayla Burrell and Keegan Burrell-Gray; several aunts, uncles, cousins, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his three children that died in infancy, Mariah, Courtney and Thomas Franks, his grandparents, Maurice and Ruth Fewell

Elliott and Dorothy Buchanan Franks.

Graveside services will be conducted on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at 11 a.m., by Rodney Nay at the Dupont Cemetery in Dupont, IN. Interment will follow in the Dupont Cemetery in Dupont, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dupont Cemetery or the Dupont Volunteer Fire Department. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Larry Richard Hon



Larry Richard Hon, age 80, of Bedford, KY, entered this life on May 10, 1944, in Rising Sun, IN. He was the loving son of the late Raymond and Mary Holdcraft Hon. He was raised in the Bedford, KY, community, was schooled there, and spent most of his life there. He was united in marriage to Barbara Maddox in 1964, and was blessed with one daughter and one son. He was a carpenter and a member of the Millwright’s Union. He was of the Baptist faith, a member of the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 Sons of the American Legion in Madison, and enjoyed his family, fishing, camping, squirrel hunting, junking, and scrapping. Larry died on Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at 11:44 p.m., at the Baptist Health LaGrange in LaGrange, KY.

Larry will be missed by his loving son, James Hon and his wife, Loriana of Madison, IN; his loving daughter, Kim Harper and her husband Bobby of Bedford, KY; his stepdaughter, Brenda Osborne of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, Darrell Harper, Darren Harper,

Natasha Osborne, Lisa Marie Osborne, James William Hon, Jr.; his great-grandchildren, Shyanna Harper and November Griffin; his brother, Danny Kaye Hon and his wife Latta Jane of Holton, IN; his life-time friend, Ronald Ashcraft of Hanover, IN; his brothers in law and sisters in law, Thomas and Delesa Maddox of Madison, IN; James Craig of Madison, Indiana; Rita Maddox of Milton, Kentucky; Donald Kinman of Madison, Indiana; James Hillard of Bardstown, KY; Rhonda Craig of Bedford, KY; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Raymond Hon, his mother, Mary Holdcraft Hon Colen, his stepdad, William Settle Colen, Sr. his brothers, Clifford

Colen and William Colen, Jr. and Donald Hon, his sister, Betty Eversman, his son in law, Albert “Bill” M. Osborne, Jr., died March 27, 2013, his brothers in law and sisters in law, Louis Maddox, Darlene Kinman, Larry Craig, Wanda Hillard, and Ronnie Craig.

Funeral services will be conducted on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., by Pastor Chris Chavez at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Moffett Cemetery in Moffett, KY.

Friends may visit Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, from 4 — 7 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025, from 12:30 p.m., until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.



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Shelley Phoenix
as Madison
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Advertising
Representative.

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Please feel free to reach out to Shelley with a warm Madison welcome. She can be reach by email at advertising@madisoncourier.com or at 812.265.3643

Shelley looks forward to connecting with you and your business. Let’s grow together!

THE MADISON COURIER
WWW.MADISONCOURIER.COM

OBITUARIES

Kathleen ‘Kak’ Lawson Lohrig

Kathleen “Kak” Lawson Lohrig, age 96, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Dec. 21, 1928, in Jefferson County, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late Hallie Holt and Olive Josephine Brooks Lawson. She was a 1946 graduate of the old Saluda High School near Hanover. She was united in marriage to William George “Bill” Lohrig on Aug. 13, 1949, in Carrollton, KY. This happy union of 64 years was blessed with two sons, Steve and Roger, and two daughters, Kathy and Jill. She was a homemaker and worked at Dolly Madison Gift Shop and ran their wallpaper store in downtown Madison for a while. She was a member of the Mt. Zion United Community Church in Paynesville and enjoyed reading and baking goodies for her family. Kathleen died on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, at 7:29 p.m. at the River Terrace Health Campus in Madison, IN.

Kathleen will be missed by her loving sons, Steve Lohrig and his wife Linda of Colorado Springs, CO, Roger Lohrig and his life partner, Debbie of Madison, IN; her loving daughters, Kathy Byrne and her husband Scott of Georgetown, IN, Jill Jackson and her husband Fred of Lexington, IN; her grandchildren, Jennifer, Stephanie, Carlie, Will Josh, Sara, Robbie and Brittany; her great grandchildren, Lauren, Madison, Caleb, Michael, Raylee, Lawson, Luke, and Trevor; several nieces,



nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Hallie Holt Lawson, her mother, Olive Josephine Brooks Lawson, her brother, Lindley Robert Lawson, her sisters, Carolyn Jane Neal, Lynne L. Boch, Dora Marjorie Reed, Jeri Ellen Bruner, her beloved husband of 64 years, William George “Bill” Lohrig, died March 6, 2014.

Funeral services will be conducted on Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., by Pastor Charlot Nash at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Grandview Memorial Gardens, 9306 North U.S. 421 near Madison, IN.

Friends could visit Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025, from 4 -7 p.m. and Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mt. Zion Community Church or the Western Fire Company No. 3. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Phillip Allan Vayhinger

Jacksonville Beach — Phillip Allan Vayhinger, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully on Jan. 18, 2025, at the age of 81. He was born March 13, 1943, in Madison, IN, to Charles and June Vayhinger, and grew up in Madison. He married the love of his life, Anne Beetem Vayhinger, on Aug. 22nd, 1964, and graduated from Hanover College with a major in Mathematics and a minor in Physics in 1967. Together, they had three sons (“The Boys”) and they built a life around their family and friends. They raised The Boys in Madison, and while Phil loved his small hometown, he also loved the beach! In 1998, they moved to Jacksonville Beach, FL. Phil’s legacy extends through his family.

He is survived by his wife Anne, his older brother Jack Vayhinger and his wife Janet, his younger sister Sandy and her husband Marty Vanderburg, his children Darran Vayhinger and his wife Kathleen, Cary Vayhinger and his wife Tamra, and Greg Vayhinger and his wife



Alana, and his cherished grandchildren Carson, Brayton, Kenzie, Brooks, Jace, and Emma.

He was predeceased by his parents, June and Charles.

A celebration of Phil’s life will be held on Jan. 25, 2025, at Ocean City Church, 102 6th Ave. North, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250, with services beginning at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Ocean City Church, reflecting Phil’s deep love and commitment to the community he called his Church home.

Phil’s memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. His kindness, humor, and love will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

James Allen Lyons

James Allen Lyons, age 67, of Volga, IN, entered this life on Nov. 13, 1957, in Madison, IN. He was the son of the late James William and Cleata Eleanor Lockridge Lyons. He lived in Jefferson County all of his life and worked for the Madison State Hospital for several years. He was of the Christian faith and enjoyed hunting, lifting weights, and working on the farm. James died on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, at 7:35 a.m., at Hickory Creek of Madison, IN.

James will be missed by his loving son, Chris Lyons and his wife, Kerry of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, Mitchell Shaw, Candice Lyons, and Christian Lyons; his three sisters, Beverly Lyons of Madison, IN, Trisha Consley and her husband, Larry of Madison, IN, and Debora Mitchell and her husband, Rollin of Madison, IN.

He was preceded in death by father, James William Lyons, his mother, Cleata Eleanor Lockridge Lyons, his brothers, Dennis



Wayne Lyons, and Donald Lee Lyons, and his sisters, Nancy K. Lyons, and Barbara J. Schermer.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, at 3 p.m. by Rev. Rollin Mitchell at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, from 1 p.m., until the time of service at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

The family has requested that no memorial donations be made. Online condolences and remembrances can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Steven Charles Sparks



Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., at the Thornton Terrace Health Campus in Hanover, IN.

Steven will be missed by his loving wife, Patricia “Patti” Schwartz Sparks of Madison, IN; his five brothers, Stanley Sparks

of Cincinnati, OH, Scott Sparks of Cincinnati, OH, Sean Sparks of Cincinnati, OH, Stuart Sparks of Loveland, OH, Sydney Sparks and his wife, Cindy of Aurora, IN; his five sisters, Sharon Murray of Cincinnati, OH, Sandy Martin of Cincinnati, OH, Shirley Knierim and her husband, Chris of Cincinnati, OH, Stephanie Sparks-Gibson and her wife, Eileen of Cincinnati, OH, Susan Sparks of Hebron, KY; his sisters in law and brother in law, Pam and Greg Montgomery of Hanover, IN, and Linda Bledsoe; numerous nieces, nephews, and other

relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Donald E. Sparks and his mother, Josephine Ann “JoAnn” Rose Vetter Sparks.

Friends may visit Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, from 1 — 3 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to Jefferson County Animal Shelter. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Frederick J. Cantrell, 80, of Madison, IN and formerly of Jeffersonville, IN, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, in the emergency room at Norton King’s Daughters’ Health in Madison. Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, at Calvary Baptist Church in Madison. Arrangements by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com.

Elva Jane Campbell Clemons, 83, of Madison, IN, died on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025, at the Water’s of Clifty Falls. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Tracy Jo Sargent Evans, 61, of Jasonville, IN, and formerly of Trimble County, KY, died Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025, at her home in Jasonville. Funeral service was Monday, Jan. 20, at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN, with interment in the Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Milton, KY, www.morgan-nay.com.

Lois Jean Harmon, 72, of Carrollton, KY, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, at her home in Carrollton. A celebration of life was Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com.

Margaret Ann Jackson Lawrence, 77, of Madison, IN, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2025, at her home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Gwendoline D. “Gwen” Read Mays, 91, of Hanover, IN, died on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025, at the Thornton Terrace Health Campus. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Connie Colleen Ogburn, 73, of Sanders, KY, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, in Sanders. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, KY, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneral-home.com.

David William Phillips, 76, of Deputy, IN, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, at Aperia Care in Hanover, IN. There will be no services. Arrangements by Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Vail Chapel, in Madison, IN, www.lytlewelty.com.

Mary Ann Powell, 83, of Bedford, KY, died Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, with interment in Bedford Cemetery there, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Jennifer Ann “Jenny” Robinson, 46, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, at University of Cincinnati Medical Hospital in Cincinnati. A celebration of life will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 25, at Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, with interment to follow in the Eastview Cemetery in Patriot, IN,

www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Orville Wayne Smith, 76, of Bedford, KY, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2025, at his residence. He was a U.S. Army veteran. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 24, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, with interment to follow in Bedford Cemetery there. The Honor Guard from the Major Samuel Woodfill Post 9 American Legion in Madison, IN, and the Ceremonial Unit from the U.S. Army Base at Fort Knox, KY, will conduct graveside military honors at the cemetery, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Harold Randall “Randy” Wasson, 74, of Madison, IN, died on Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025, at the Norton King’s Daughters’ Hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Robin Renee Barber Webb, 63, of Bedford, KY, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025, at Baptist Hospital in La Grange, KY. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Phyllis C. Wilson, 84, of Madison, IN, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2025, at Baptist East Hospital in Louisville. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 24, at Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Vail Chapel, in Madison, with interment to follow in St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Madison, www.lytlewelty.com.



Charlie Rohlfing

Musician/songwriter Robert Reynolds (sitting center) leads the Kindred Folk Society’s Anatomy of a Song workshop.

SONG

FROM **PAGE A1**

Jane continues, “We’re super excited about the mix of people who signed up. We have everything from professional musicians to beginners. And we have ages represented from 14 to 75. Noah Wright at Analog Coffee offered his space for the sessions, so it’s very cozy and warm and pretty magical.”

The first session was last week, and I managed to interview several of the attendees.

Fourteen year-old Lucy Wilhelm was there with her father Jack. “I’m really excited about this songwriting workshop,” she said. “I’m looking for something fun that might turn into a hobby. I’ve

actually written one song as part of my schoolwork, so I’m hoping to learn more about it.”

Cheryl Byers is on the other end of the spectrum. She was a professional musician in her younger life and has about 25 original songs to her credit. “Yeah, but only about 10 of those songs are what I’d call keepers,” she explains with a smile. “I’m looking to refine my craft and up the quality. I’m sure Robert will have some insights for us.”

Steve Hall is a recent resident to Madison, having moved here from Georgia. “I was coming up here to take care of my aging mother,” Steve explains, “and then I discovered the music scene in Madison. That sealed it for me! I moved here in October. I’m

hoping this class will help me connect with other musicians here in town.”

Other attendees included Gary Duckworth, noted “sound man” here in town; Connie Welch, bass player with the band Parcel of Rogues; and John Gray, a self-taught songwriter who professes to have “about 15 songs, but only three good ones.”

Everybody brought their guitars, and I even saw a saxophone in the mix.

As I said, last week was week-one of the 8-week workshop. I’ll check in closer to the conclusion and let you all know how things are shaping up. But all in all, it was just another special typical evening in the heart of Indiana’s Music City.

SEE **SONG/PAGE A8**

Zoning change approved for Dollar General in Dupont

BY BOB DEMAREE

A zoning change approved by the Jefferson County Plan Commission at its meeting Tuesday will allow construction of a Dollar General Store in the town of Dupont.

The zoning change from R-1 (residential) and AG (agricultural) to GB (general business) rezones an 18.91-acre tract off State Road 7 in northern Dupont owned by Jerry Ferguson and David Ferguson. Will McDonough, project engineer at Paul Primavera and Associates of Corydon, said the development will actually involve the purchase of 2 acres for a 10,640 square foot Dollar General.

“We looked at a few other places in Dupont,” he said, noting one

“was questionably an historic site. We didn’t want to tear that down in case somebody was offended by that, which people do.”

In July, Indiana Landmarks had expressed concern that the historic Bonny Crest property in Dupont, located near the corner of Main Street and State Road 7, was being considered as a potential site for a Dollar General.

McDonough said there was “another site that didn’t work” as well as the site where the zoning change was approved. “This one has more utilities available, so that’s where we landed” across the road from a trailer park at Morgan’s Trace and Sparkman Lane, utilizing the Dupont sewer system.

Plan Commission President

Warren Auxier said he looked at the site, and stated the location of the Dollar General is compatible with other elements in the area in that it’s along the highway near another existing business and across the road from a mobile home park and another commercial property.

“It is taking two acres of farm ground out of an existing farm field,” Auxier said. “From my view, I did not see any conflicts where it was going to be changing the character of the neighborhood or putting a business right up against a residential home. I believe overall it will be a positive addition to the neighborhood.”

Commission member Ray Black Jr. asked if any comments

had been received from Dupont Hardware and Grocery, located at 10330 State Road 7, that is near the new Dollar General.

Auxier noted there was no one at the meeting to voice an opinion on the Dollar General application, and all adjoining property owners had been contacted. He also said property owners were actually given longer notice because the meeting was initially scheduled for Jan. 7 but rescheduled due to the Courthouse being closed due to hazardous weather conditions from the Jan. 5-6 winter storm. Notification was again sent for the rescheduled meeting and actually more property owners were notified beyond the parcel of land where the store will be located.

With David Ferguson also being a member of the Jefferson County Plan Commission, he abstained from voting while all other members voted in support.

Because the meeting was the Plan Commission’s first of the year, officers were elected for 2025 with Auxier reelected President and David Bramer reelected Vice President, roles each have held since January 2020. Auxier was serving as Vice President in 2019 when Lonnie Mason retired as Jefferson County Extension agent Sept. 30, 2019, and ran meetings as vice president through of the rest of that year. Meanwhile, Taylor Baulau, the administrative assistant in the planning and zoning office, was elected secretary.



Bob Demaree

Temperatures in single digits Monday didn’t prevent a good attendance at the tribute service for Martin Luther King Jr. at Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Madison.

KING

FROM PAGE A3

Blunt sang an assortment of songs that included “Take My Hand Precious Lord,” “If I Can Help Somebody,” “We Shall Overcome,” “Lift Every Voice and Song” and others. The event included songs by pianist Yvonne Davis and the Madison Consolidated High School Jazz Ensemble, along with Broadway Baptist Church Pastor Harvey Leggett singing “My Country ‘Tis of Thee.”

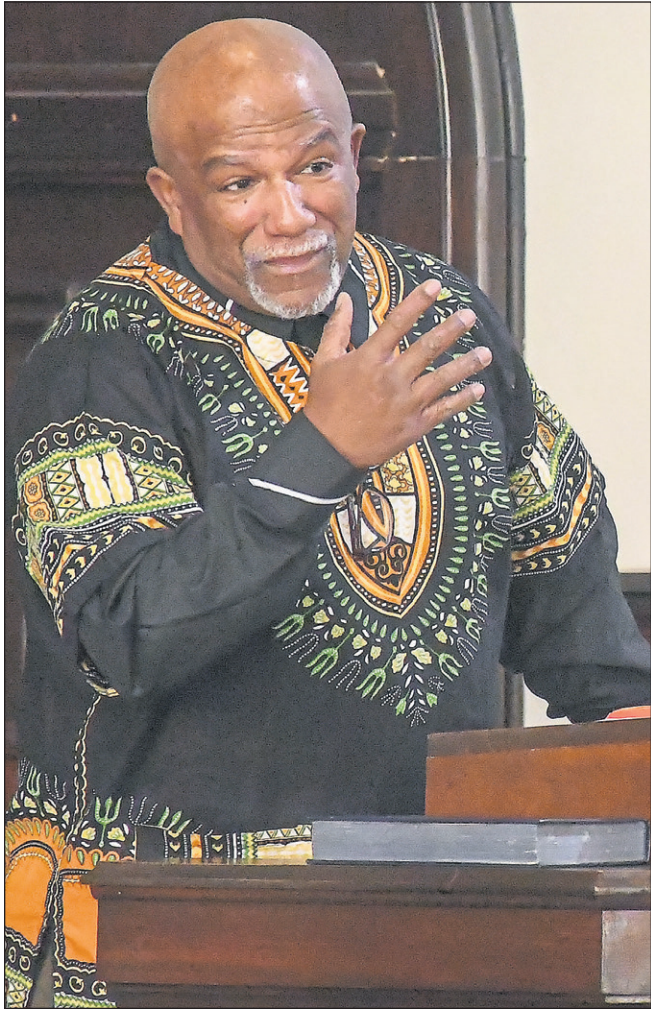
Pastor Jermaine Lovings from the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville also spoke and referenced some of King’s favorite quotes:

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”

“Hatred paralyzes light. Love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it.”

Lovings said they are messages that come from King’s gospel roots. “When I think of Jesus Christ, he harmonizes everything. There is no hatred in Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ illuminates



Bob Demaree

Broadway Baptist Church Pastor Harvey Leggett sang “My Country ‘Tis of Thee” during Monday’s service to commemorate the life of Martin Luther King Jr. at Trinity United Methodist Church.

everything. So, when you think about Martin Luther King Jr., remember this, yes, he was a great man, he was a leader in the Civil Rights movement, he was a liberator of people, but also got his inspira-

tion ultimately from Jesus Christ.”

The program, which included a luncheon, was sponsored by Jen Era Jeff No. 44 Order of Eastern Star and Eureka Lodge No. 30.

TRAFFIC

FROM PAGE A1

have been safety concerns, Stormer thought lowering

the 40 mph highway speed might help to address that with “turning into neighborhoods being so dangerous.” With a 30 mph speed limit, she said it “would make it safer and be a lot

better for businesses” that they might stop to shop.

- Approved increasing pay for referees and umpires for Hanover Parks Department from \$25 to \$30 per game.

TAX

FROM PAGE A1

JCBT board member Jim Bartlett noted, “Good weather at the Chautauqua might have fixed that,” and made up for the 11,500 decrease. Wet weather during the 2024 Chautauqua decreased the typical 40,000 crowd by 50% last year.

Forrester said there were also a couple of other bad weather events that likely decreased the number of visitors. “Some of those did affect our numbers. It was not down enough to worry me,” he said.

Forrester said Jefferson County had 760,000 unique visitors with 6.3 million visits. He noted there are many visits to the county generated from the region surrounding Jefferson County, attributing that to those coming

to shop with the draw of Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing and other destinations.

He said data shows people coming from Carrollton, Scottsburg, Versailles, Batesville and more nearby communities. “They are coming once a month, and coming to the shopping center, making Madison that regional hub,” he said.

Kim Nyberg, executive director of the Madison Area Arts Alliance, a recipient of grant funding from JCBT in the past, talked about the work of that organization to increase tourism and creative opportunities in Madison and Jefferson County.

“We just listen to people, and we create programs based on what the community tells us,” said Nyberg, noting Madison is one of 12 cultural districts in the state of Indiana. MAAA is now staffed by a full-time executive director, a part-time program manager and a part-time office/gal-

lery assistant. “We would not be able to do what we do without” the support of JCBT.

Bartlett said tourism partnership grant applications for the spring cycle are now being accepted. Questions can be emailed to Bartlett at jbartlett@madison-in.gov. Applications are due by noon on Monday, March 3. Presentations to the JCBT board will be made at the Monday, March 17, meeting with award announcements made at the Monday, March 24, meeting.

Josh Abbott, director of sales for the Cotton Mill Fairfield Inn and Suites, joined the board for his first meeting. “I’m excited about the opportunity you gave me,” Abbott said.

The board also elected officers for 2025 including Crafton as president, Bartlett as vice president, Bramer as treasurer and Renie Stephens as secretary.

SONG

FROM PAGE A7

HOT TIP OF THE WEEK

Do you have your Valentine’s evening planned yet? Your favorite restaurants around town will have special seatings, so get your reservations now. There’s also something new and interesting happening at Red Bicycle Hall this year, a candlelit dinner with a jazz music concert. Info and tickets are at MadTixEvents.com.

Looking at this week’s calendar, I’m seeing several of our perennial favorites, like Jimmy Davis and Vaguely Familiar, but also some new names you might want to check out, like Kyra and the Kassettes at Mad Paddle or Vincent Langdon on Sunday at Rivertown. Oh, and if you’ve never seen the force of nature that is Laid Back Country Picker, the dynamite duo will be at Red Bike on Saturday.

Charlie Rohlfling is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music



Charlie Rohlfling

Mark Rogers (left) of the Kindred Folk Society and musician/songwriter Robert Reynolds, leader of the Anatomy of a Song workshop with some of the workshop attendees.

venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd, anywhere live local music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, January 24

Tailgators — Patriotic Karaoke

American Legion — L&L Karaoke (8 p.m.-Midnight)

First Street Country Saloon — Dylan West

Mad Paddle — Kyra and the Kassettes (6-8 p.m.)

Rivertown Grill — Keith Swinney Band (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Saturday, January 25

First Street Country Saloon — DJ Nate

Mad Paddle — Six Ways to Sunday (7-10 p.m.)

Rivertown Grill — Vaguely Familiar (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)

Central Hotel — Jimmy Davis Band

Red Bicycle Hall — Laid Back Country Picker (8 p.m.)

Sunday, January 26

Rivertown Grill — Vincent Langdon (7-10 p.m.)

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Madison's Carlos Salom (4) and Zachary Vinup (14) battle with Charlestown's Cohen Cooley (11) for a rebound during Tuesday's game in Charlestown.

Madison battles Charlestown to the end in 67-58 loss

BY DAVID CAMPBELL
CHARLESTOWN — Madison put together one of its best performances of the season before falling 67-58 at Charlestown on a frigid Tuesday night in boys basketball.

The Cubs knocked down 14 3-pointers and trailed by two with just over three minutes to play before Charlestown finally pulled away in the closing minutes to claim the win.

Madison coach Danny Gibson was thrilled with the way his team played but also concerned that they still need to learn how to close out games.

"I'm definitely proud. Charlestown is off to a really good start this year and we came in here and battled," Gibson said. "It's been the kind of story all year. I can't fault my team's effort, but at some point we want to get over that hump."

Madison (3-9) spent nearly the entire game playing from behind but the Cubs never let Charlestown get too far ahead. An early 12-0 run staked the Pirates to a 12-4 lead but Madison battled back to within one (15-14) before a shot at the buzzer gave Charlestown a three-point lead at the quarter break.

And so it went all game. Each time Charlestown would

pull away, Madison would be there to reel the Pirates back in.

"We'll fight. These kids are giving me everything they have," Gibson said.

Madison trailed by eight (37-29) midway through the third quarter but used outside shooting to pull even at 46-46 heading into the fourth quarter. The Cubs then took the lead three times in the fourth — the last on a Landon True 3-pointer with 5:57 to play — to set themselves up for a strong finish.

But Charlestown (10-2) performed like the heavy favorite the Pirates were. After True hit another 3-pointer to knot the game 56-56 with 3:53 to go, the Pirates got back-to-back three-point plays by Anthony Fresh to push the lead to six. A Grason Connell layup with 2:38 left then staked Charlestown to a 64-56 lead.

Damon Harden cut the lead to six with a pair of free throws with 38 seconds to go for Madison but the Cubs could get no closer. Fresh closed the game with a dunk at the buzzer for the final margin.

For Gibson, Madison's inability to close out games is a sign of inexperience, both from his players and by him as coach.

SEE **MADISON/PAGE B8**

Madison's Damon Harden (13) uses a screen from teammate Landon True to fire a 3-pointer during Tuesday's game at Charlestown.

David Campbell



GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS

Cubs fend off Scottsburg for 12th win

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Madison gutted out a 47-41 win over Scottsburg at home in girls basketball on Tuesday.

After a low-scoring first half that saw the Cubs lead only 12-9 at the break, Madison scored 15 points in the third quarter and 20 in the fourth while going 13-for-18 from the foul line in the final period to claim the win.

Juliana Davis had 16 points and Mylee McQuery scored 14 to lead Madison with Addison Roark chipping in eight.

Ellie Richardson scored 28 points for Scottsburg to lead all scorers.

Madison, now 12-4 on the season, traveled to East Central on Thursday and heads to Columbus East on Saturday. The Cubs then go to North Harrison next Tuesday.

REBELS ROLL OVER SALEM

Southwestern doubled-up Salem 50-25 Tuesday on the road.

Freshman Mikayla Nussbaum had 15 points and four assists to lead Southwestern while Baleigh McAfee had a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds and Rorie Scroggins had eight points, five rebounds and three steals.

Southwestern, now 13-6 on the season, hosted South Ripley on Thursday and travels to Rising Sun on Saturday. The Rebels then host Austin on Tuesday.

PACERS BEAT JAC-CEN-DEL

Switzerland County picked up its third-straight win 66-52 at home over conference foe Jac-Cen-Del on Tuesday.

No statistics from the game were available.

Switzerland, now 7-13 overall and 2-3 in the Ohio River Valley Conference, hosted Gallatin County on Thursday and travels to Gallatin County on Tuesday.

TRIMBLE KNOCKS OFF OLDHAM

Trimble County scored a 54-45 win over former 29th District rival Oldham County at home on Tuesday.

Kendra Mahoney had 17 points, Ainslie Stark had 15 points and Jolie Wilcoxson had 13.

Trimble, now 6-7 overall, traveled to North Oldham on Thursday and heads to Carroll County on Monday.

CARROLL 3 POINTS SHORT TWICE

Carroll County dropped a narrow 42-39 loss at Gallatin County on Tuesday.

Elle Spencer had 18 points and 11 rebounds and Cloie McGuire had 13 to lead the Panthers.

On Wednesday, Carroll lost by another three points in a 55-52 decision at home to Collins. No statistics were available.

The Panthers, now 6-9 overall and 2-3 in the 31st District Tournament travels to Shelby County on Friday and hosts Christian Academy of Madison on Saturday. Carroll hosts Trimble County on Monday.

BOYS HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS

Gutman, Dalton double-doubles lead Carroll over Demons 58-50

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Cooper Gutman and Hunter Dalton each had double-doubles to lead Carroll County to a 58-50 win over Williamstown at home on Monday in boys basketball.

Gutman scored 26 points on 8-for-15 shooting and had 12 rebounds while Dalton had 10 points and 13 rebounds.

Carroll then lost 90-44 at Gallatin County on Tuesday. No statistics for the game were available.

Carroll, now 4-10 overall and 1-4 in the 31st District, hosts Shawe on Friday and travels to Bellevue on Saturday. The Panthers then host Trimble County on Tuesday.

PACERS FINISH 3RD IN RIVERTOWN
Switzerland County scored a 66-40 win

over Rising Sun in the third place game of the Rivertown Classic at South Dearborn on Tuesday.

No statistics were available.

Switzerland, now 6-7 on the season, hosts Rising Sun on Friday and hosts South Dearborn on Saturday. The Panthers then travel to East Central on Tuesday.

RAIDERS SPLIT TWO GAMES
Trimble County split a pair of games earlier this week in boys basketball.

On Monday, Trimble defeated Frankfort Christian 62-56 on the road. On Tuesday, the Raiders lost 55-47 at Cornerstone Christian. No statistics for either game were available.

Trimble, now 5-12 on the season, travels to Carroll County on Tuesday.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JAN. 24 BASKETBALL

Carroll Co. girls at Shelby Co., 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern boys at Lawrenceburg, 7:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. boys host Shawe, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys host Rising Sun (homecoming), 7:30 p.m.
Madison boys at Rushville, 8 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Hanover, Bellarmine Open, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 25 BASKETBALL

Shawe girls at Clarksville, noon
Carroll Co. girls host Madison Christian, 1 p.m.
Hanover women at Earlham, 1 p.m.
Southwestern girls at Rising Sun, 1:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. boys at Bellevue, 2:30 p.m.
Hanover men at Earlham, 3 p.m.
Madison girls at Columbus East, 3:30 p.m.
Madison boys at New Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern boys at South Central, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys host South Dearborn, 7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Shawe, Southwestern, Switzerland Co., Anderson Invite at Southwestern, 10 a.m.
Hanover at Transylvania, 1 p.m.

WRESTLING

Southwestern at Milan, 8 a.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 27 BASKETBALL

Shawe boys host Assumption, 5:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. girls host Trimble Co., 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 28 BASKETBALL

Shawe girls at Providence, 6 p.m.
Carroll Co. boys host Trimble Co., 7:30 p.m.
Madison girls at North Harrison, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern boys at Rock Creek, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern girls host Austin, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. boys at East Central, 7:30 p.m.
Switzerland Co. girls at Rising Sun, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING
Madison hosts Lanesville, Charlestown, 6 p.m.

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Berea hits shot at the buzzer to beat Hanover women

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Drea Satori hit a layup at the buzzer to lift Berea to a 71-69 win over Hanover College in women's basketball Wednesday at Collier Arena.

The two teams went back-and-forth for the entire game with Hanover taking a 57-53 lead into the fourth quarter. Berea rallied to take a 69-66 lead with 26 seconds to play on a basket in the paint, but Katherine Benter answered with a 3-pointer on the other end to tie the game for the Panthers with 19 seconds to go.

Berea then got the game-winner at the buzzer.

Grace Bezold had 24 points and six rebounds to lead Hanover while Benter had 20 points and nine rebounds. Sammy Berman added 10 points.

Jayden Merriweather had 19 points and Lynkaylah James had 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead Berea.

Hanover, now 13-4 overall and 7-3 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, travels to Earlham on Saturday and hosts Mount St. Joseph next Wednesday.

HANOVER MEN FALL AT BERA

Hanover had its three-game win streak snapped with a 72-63 loss at



Hanover's Katherine Benter (34) guards Berea's Jayden Merriweather (10) during Wednesday's 71-69 loss at Collier Arena.

Berea in men's basketball on Wednesday.

Hanover led 35-31 at the half but was outscored by 13 points in the second quarter to fall to 5-5 in league play.

Coleman Sater had 16 points and eight rebounds and Cam Freeman had 13 points and eight assists to lead Hanover. Madison's Luke Miller had 11 points and Malachi McNair had seven points and nine rebounds.

Hanover, now 9-8 overall and 5-5 HCAC, travels to Earlham on Saturday and heads to Mount St. Joseph on Wednesday.



Hanover's Kaitlyn Lorenzi (in white) shoots over Berea's LynKaylah James and Drea Satori (12) during Wednesday's loss at Collier Arena.

Bengals hire Peters to coach O-line

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals hired Scott Peters as offensive line coach and Michael McCarthy as assistant offensive line coach Monday.

Peters replaces Frank Pollack, who was an assistant on Zac Taylor's staff for four seasons (2021-24). Pollack also coached the Bengals offensive line in 2018, which was Marvin Lewis' final season.

Peters coached New England's offensive line this past season. He is familiar with the AFC North though after being Cleveland's assistant offensive line coach from 2020 through '23.

McCarthy also spent this season on New England's staff as an offensive coaching assistant.

Peters' immediate task will be to fix a unit that has struggled to keep Joe Burrow upright. Burrow led the league with 4,918 passing yards and 43 passing TDs this season, but was also sacked 48 times, tied for fifth most.

Cincinnati won five straight games to end the season, but missed the playoffs with a 9-8 record. Taylor still has openings to address at defensive coordinator, defensive line and linebacker coaches.

Golden returning to Bengals as DC

BY JOE REEDY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zac Taylor and the Cincinnati Bengals will have a familiar face as their next defensive coordinator.

Al Golden agreed to return to Cincinnati on Wednesday after three seasons as Notre Dame's defensive coordinator, a person with knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the decision has not been announced.



Al Golden

Golden was the Bengals linebackers coach during the 2020 and '21 seasons. He interviewed on Tuesday, the day after Notre Dame's 34-23 loss to Ohio State in the College Football Playoff national title game. Golden informed Notre Dame coach Marcus Freeman of his decision on Wednesday and is expected to be in Cincinnati on Thursday.

Golden replaces Lou Anarumo, who led Cincinnati's defense for six seasons. Anarumo was hired as the Indianapolis Colts defensive coordinator on Monday.

NFL Network was first to report that Golden and the Bengals were near an agreement.

Cincinnati ended the season on a five-game winning streak to go 9-8, but missed out on a playoff spot for the second straight year. A major reason for that was the defense.

The Bengals lost four games in which they scored at least 30 points. The defense allowed 414 points, fifth most in the

league, and surrendered a touchdown on 67.9% of opponent's red zone possessions, the third-worst rate in the NFL.

Notre Dame was second in the Football Bowl Subdivision in scoring defense, allowing only 14.3 points per game. The Fighting Irish were ninth nationally in total defense at 298.3 yards per game.

Despite finishing 25th in the league in total defense (348.3 yards allowed per game), the Bengals do have some talent on the unit. Edge rusher Trey Hendrickson was an All-Pro selection

and led the NFL with 17 1/2 sacks.

Cornerback Cam Taylor-Britt tied for fifth with 16 passes defended and safety Geno Stone was one of 18 players with at least four interceptions.

Most of Golden's success has been in the college ranks, including stints as a head coach with Temple and Miami.

Golden's previous NFL coaching experience also includes four seasons with the Detroit Lions. He was the tight ends coach in 2016 and '17 before shifting over to linebackers in 2018 and '19.

Colts hire Anarumo as defensive coordinator

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts decided two weeks ago that their defense needed a change.

On Monday, the offseason overhaul began with the hiring of Lou Anarumo, a person with knowledge of the hire confirmed to The Associated Press. The person spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because the decision has not been announced.

Anarumo replaces Gus Bradley, who was heavily criticized this past season for an underperforming unit.

How bad was it? Pro Bowl defensive tackle DeForest Buckner called it the worst defense he had played on since being traded to the Colts in 2020.

General manager Chris Ballard blamed himself for the problems



Lou Anarumo

that, at least in part, kept the Colts (8-9) out of the playoffs for a fourth consecutive season.

"That falls on all of us," Ballard said Jan. 10, four days after the Bradley decision was announced. "And at the end of the day, I did not give them enough, and we've got to — in totality, have to do better defensively — from a player acquisition standpoint and from a play standpoint."

Anarumo spent the past six seasons in Cincinnati and was considered a "hot" head coaching candidate after helping the Bengals reach the Super Bowl following the 2021 season. He was even linked to vacancies with the New York Giants and Arizona Cardinals as recently as 2023.

But as the Bengals defense had a rough season in 2024, Anarumo's stock took a significant hit. He was fired Jan. 6.

Now he's getting a new chance with a team that seems primed to be making additional moves. Indy already had announced defensive backs coach Ron Milus and linebackers coach Richard Smith would not return.

Ballard also must contend with a free agent list that includes starting linebacker E.J. Speed, starting safety Julian Blackmon and three key backups — defensive tackle Taven Bryan, defensive end Dayo Odeyingbo and linebacker Grant Stuard.

Typically, Ballard has spent his available salary cap room on re-signing players the team has developed through the draft. But he sounded open to taking a different approach in 2025 following his season-ending news conference.

"We have to do a better job identifying the free agents we want to sign and then being able to close the deal on them. And

that's up to me, it really is," Ballard said. "It's not (team owner) Mr. (Jim) Irsay, he'll let me do what I need to do — and my staff. We have to be able to do that."

And he could be getting some help in the free agent market from Buckner, a team captain who called for key changes this offseason while promising to recruit free agents who can help the Colts get back to the postseason.

It's unclear how much will change schematically with Anarumo handling the defense. Still, Buckner wants to see changes.

"We all have egos, but the great teams, those guys sacrifice that ego and check it at the door," Buckner said. "You see it, you can feel it. You can see it on tape. It wasn't just one guy, it was a lot of guys and I have to take part ownership in that and serve in a much better way next year."

LOCAL LEAGUES

Hanover Parks Department

MONDAY, JAN. 20

Girls Basketball

"A" Division

Premier Lawns & Landscapes Purple Cheetahs 12, Taunya's Creative Cuts Pink Flamingos 0 — Navy Cline had 6 points and Emery Schaefer had 4 for the Purple Cheetahs. Arianna Haycraft and Kamilla Clark both played well for the Pink Flamingos.

"B" Division

Wi Salon Suites Pink Dragons 14, Taunya's Creative Cuts Red Thunder 2 — Abby Schaefer had 8 points and Stella Downey 4 for the Pink Dragons. Ava Roark had 2 for the Red Thunder.

"C" Division

Jendy's Pizzeria Hoosiers 16, Pope John 4th Grade Irish 4 — Blakely Adams had 8 and McKenzie Garvey 6 for the Hoosiers. Olivia Hill had 2 and Emily Cissel 2 for the Irish.

COURIERAREA SPORTS SHORTS

BY THE COURIER STAFF

• Shawe's Audrey Barron and Matthew Vaughn and Southwestern's Natalee Crawford have been named Ohio River Valley Conference athletes of the week.

Barron earned the award in girls basketball. She had 68 points, 21 rebounds, seven

assists and five steals in two games for the Hilltoppers.

Vaughn won the award in boys swimming with a pair of event wins and a school record.

Crawford won the award in girls swimming with a school record and six event wins.

• Shawe defeated Christian Academy of

Madison 46-9 in a combined eighth grade boys basketball game on Monday.

The Hilltoppers had 10 different players score with Luke Demaree leading the way with eight points and Kellen Martin and Patrick Kahn scoring seven each.

Shawe is now 10-7 on the season.

Lions hoping to avoid setback after coordinators left

BY LARRY LAGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — The Detroit Lions are the third team since at least 2010 to have both coordinators become NFL head coaches in the same offseason.

They're hoping not to take a step back next season as the other two teams did.

Just days after the NFL's top-seeded team was stunned by sixth-seeded Washington, offensive coordinator

Ben Johnson was hired by the Chicago Bears and defensive coordinator Aaron Glenn left to lead the New York Jets.

Both are finalists for The Associated Press 2024 NFL Assistant Coach of the Year award.

Philadelphia lost coordinators Shane Steichen and Jonathan Gannon to Indianapolis and Arizona following the 2022 season. Cincinnati coordinators Jay Gruden and Mike Zimmer were hired by Washington and Min-

nesota after the 2013 season.

The Eagles won the NFC East and went to the Super Bowl with Steichen and Gannon on the coaching staff, then finished second in the division and lost in the wildcard round the next year.

The Bengals were AFC North champions with Gruden and Zimmer and slipped to second place in the division the following year.

Lions general manager Brad Holmes said AP

NFL Coach of the Year finalist Dan Campbell has been ready to replace Johnson and Glenn because he expected to lose both of them during this coaching cycle.

"Dan has been preparing for it and I have the full faith and trust in Dan to make sure that we're going to have the right people in place in those spots," Holmes said Thursday at his postseason news conference.

While there was not much the Lions could

do to convince Johnson and Glenn to stay, they want to keep their top remaining assistants and other staff members even though some of them will have opportunities with the Bears and Jets.

"It's not only in coaching, it's in personnel as well," Holmes said. "I've always said it's hard to keep the good ones, but I understand that when guys want to poach guys from our program, you've just got to be prepared for it."

Overhauled Cards in Top 25 since 2021

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Pat Kelsey started with a clean slate at Louisville, where he rebuilt the roster with transfers who had won at other places. Now they are all winning together with the Cardinals, who after two historically bad seasons are on a nine-game winning streak and back in the Top 25 for the first time in four years.

“We were intentional about identifying guys that came from programs and have a background of winning,” the new coach said. “They just have that winning gene about them. ... Besides having that winning gene, it’s about how tough, we’ve got tough dudes. It’s how competitive, we’ve got competitive dudes. It’s basketball IQ, we have high basketball IQ guys.”

Louisville (15-5, 8-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) already has exceeded its combined overall and conference win totals from the past two seasons under Kenny Payne. He finished 12-52 in his first collegiate coaching job long after being a standout player for Hall of Fame coach Denny Crum and a member of the Cardinals’ 1986 national championship team.

In its first game as a Top 25 team since January 2021, Louisville won 98-73 at ACC newcomer SMU on Tuesday night. Reyne Smith, the Australian senior guard who came with Kelsey from the College of Charleston, set a single-game program record with 10 3-pointers while scoring 30 points, and Chucky Hepburn set the school record with 16 assists.

Hepburn had four lob passes that 6-foot-11 James Scott, another transfer from Charleston, converted into slam dunks against SMU. The guard’s record assist came on a banked 3-pointer by Scott.

“Coach did a great job of recruiting winners,” said



Louisville Athletics photo

James Scott, 0, and the Louisville bench react during a huge first half against SMU at Moody Coliseum in Dallas.

Hepburn, Wisconsin’s starting point guard the past three seasons who is averaging 15.1 points and 6.4 assists per game for Louisville. “We knew how good we were going to be, and we just needed to figure it out.”

Smith is averaging 14.5 points a game and 78 of his 90 made field goals this season are 3-pointers. Terrence Edwards, who was the Sun Belt Conference player of the year for 32-4 James Madison last season, is scoring 13.3 points a game. J’Vonne Hadley averages 12 points a game and is Louisville’s top rebounder at 7.6 per game after helping Colorado reach the Sweet 16 last season.

Four of Louisville’s five losses came to ranked teams before Christmas. That included the ACC opener against now- No. 2 Duke on Dec. 8 — the only team

in the league with a longer winning streak (12 games). The last loss was Dec. 15 to instate rival Kentucky.

“They’re just unbelievably process oriented. ... These guys, they just been about business every day,” Kelsey said. “You can just feel how connected the guys are both on the offensive and defensive end. They’re selfless. You know, the old quote, it’s amazing how much can be accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit. I think that defines this team in a lot of ways.”

WINNING WAYS

Before taking the Louisville job, Kelsey was 261-122 over 12 years including a stop at Winthrop. He was 27-8 last season at Charleston and 75-27 overall with consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances.

The Cardinals have 11

players who were on teams in the NCAA Tournament last season. They have 12 players who were on 20-win teams.

NEW CARDINALS HAVE A LOT OF EXPERIENCE

While all 11 active scholarship players are new to Louisville this season, they have plenty of Division I basketball experience.

Those 11 players entered this season with 19,898 minutes played, making it the most experienced group of players the Cardinals have had since Crum’s 1981-82 team that made the Final Four after entering that season with 13,298 minutes.

Four of the newcomers arrived already with more than 1,000 career points.

The only returning player was fifth-year walk-on guard Aidan McCool, who has one

point in seven appearances this season.

SOME ROAD WORK TO DO

Louisville certainly seems on track to get to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2019. That current five-season drought is its longest since missing seven NCAAAs in a row from 1952-58.

After the trip to Dallas, the Cardinals have an extended break before wrapping up their January schedule next Tuesday at home against Wake Forest.

They then play five of their seven February games away from home, though they finish the regular season with three home games between March 1-8.

Berry hits 7 3s as NW gets 5 wins

EVANSTON, Ill. — Ty Berry made seven 3-pointers and finished with 23 points, Brooks Barnhizer added 21 points and Northwestern beat Indiana 79-70 on Wednesday night.

Northwestern pulled away with a 21-4 run for a 70-56 lead with 3:12 to play. Jalen Leach made three of the Wildcat’s five 3s during the stretch.

Luke Goode and Mackenzie Mgbako answered with back-to-back 3s to cut the Hoosiers’ deficit to 72-68, but they didn’t get closer.

Northwestern (12-7, 3-5 Big Ten) has won five straight in the series, its longest since winning five straight from 1913-15.

Berry shot 8 of 13 from the field and grabbed seven rebounds. Barnhizer was 8-of-14 shooting and had eight rebounds and six assists. Nick Martinelli added 18 points and Leach finished with 15 points and seven assists for Northwestern, which scored 21 points from 17 Indiana turnovers.

Mgbako scored 20 points on 8-of-14 shooting to lead Indiana (14-6, 5-4). Oumar Ballo added 15 points and Goode had 14.

Mgbako’s 3-pointer stretched the Hoosiers lead to seven points, 36-29, about two minutes into the second half. It was their largest lead of the game.

Indiana hosts Maryland on Sunday (TV: Live on CBS at noon)

VISIT US ONLINE

www.madisoncourier.com

No. 25 Louisville overwhelms SMU 98-73

Game was Cards’ first as ranked team in 4 years

DALLAS — Reyne Smith scored 30 points while matching his career high with a school-record 10 3-pointers and No. 25 Louisville won its first game as a ranked team in four years, beating Atlantic Coast Conference newcomer SMU 98-73 on Tuesday night.

Chucky Hepburn had 13 points and a career-high 16 assists, another program record, as the Cardinals (15-5, 8-1 ACC) won their ninth game in a row. J’Vonne Hadley and James Scott each added 16 points.

With first-year coach Pat Kelsey and a roster filled with transfers and one freshman — the only returning player was a fifth-year walk-on — Louisville this week broke into the AP Top 25 for first time since January 2021.

Matt Cross had 18 points to lead SMU (14-5, 5-3), which had its three-game winning streak snapped. B.J. Edwards scored 16.

Hepburn, a senior transfer from Wisconsin, opened the game with a 3 as the Cardinals never trailed and built a 32-point lead.

TAKEAWAYS

Louisville: The Cardinals have their longest winning streak since winning 10 in a row in early 2020.

SMU: The Mustangs were coming off a 117-74 win at Miami, but are 0-2 at home against ranked ACC teams in coach Andy Enfield’s first season. They lost 89-62 to Duke, which is up to No. 2.

KEY MOMENT

James Scott converted three alley-oop dunks on passes from Hepburn in a 12-2 run for a 29-10 lead. The first two came in a span of 30 seconds.

KEY STAT

SMU missed 13 of its first 15 shots and trailed by 11 midway through the first half. The Mustangs entered as the ACC leader in shooting at 48.6% from the field.

UP NEXT

Louisville has a week between games before hosting Wake Forest next Tuesday (TV: Live on ACCN at 7 p.m.)

Should I Trust My Retirement to an Insurance Company?



Stephen Dybwad “Layin’ it on the line”

By Stephen Dybwad Retirement Planning/Wealth Management

Annuity companies are among the safest places to trust retirement funds. They are subject to various regulations and safeguards to protect the company and its customers. Annuities are financial products offered by insurance companies, which are known for their long-standing stability and focus on risk management.

In terms of regulation, insurance companies are regulated primarily at the state level in the United States. Each state has its own insurance department responsible for overseeing insurance companies operating within its jurisdiction. These departments set rules, approve products, and monitor the financial health of companies.

The Utah Department of Insurance plays a crucial role in regulating annuity companies and ensuring that they operate fairly and securely within the state.

Services they provide are agent and company licenses, consumer protection, financial regulation of insurance companies doing business in Utah, and market conduct examinations, including sales practices and business practices. The Utah Department of Insurance also plays a role in educating consumers about annuities and insurance-related matters. They provide resources, guidelines, and information to help consumers make informed decisions when purchasing annuities. They handle customer complaints and work with other regulatory bodies in and out of state.

Here’s why annuity companies are considered safe:

1. Stringent Regulation: Annuity companies are subject to strict regulations imposed by government authorities, the Utah Department of Insurance. Regulations are in place to ensure that insurance companies maintain a strong financial position, have sufficient reserves to meet their obligations, and operate fairly and transparently.

2. Capital Requirements: State Department of Insurance regulators set specific capital requirements that annuity companies must meet. This ensures they have enough financial resources to cover potential losses and fulfill their commitments to policyholders.

3. Risk Management: Annuity companies are experienced at managing risks. They carefully invest the premiums they collect from policyholders to generate returns while minimizing exposure to high-risk assets.

4. Guarantee Mechanisms: Annuities often come

with guarantees, such as a guaranteed minimum interest rate or guaranteed income for life. These guarantees give policyholders a safety net, knowing they will receive certain benefits regardless of market fluctuations.

5. Stress Testing: Insurance regulators require annuity companies to undergo stress tests like banks to assess their ability to withstand adverse economic conditions. This helps ensure that companies are well-prepared for potential financial challenges.

6. Financial Reporting: Annuity companies are required to provide transparent and accurate financial reporting to regulators and the public. This transparency helps build trust and confidence in the company’s financial health.

So, in a nutshell, annuity companies are considered safe due to the combination of rigorous regulations, risk management practices, and financial safeguards that are in place to protect both the companies and their customers.

Stephen Dybwad, a long-time Hoosier resident, is a member of Syndicated Columnists, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management.

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Ohio State snaps 3-game skid 73-70 over No. 11 Purdue

WEST LAFAYETTE — Micah Parrish scored 17 of his career-high 22 points in the second half, helping Ohio State rally from a 16-point first-half deficit and fueling a 15-0 run in the closing minutes that led to a 73-70 win over No. 11 Purdue on Tuesday night.

Parrish was 8 of 10 from the field and made a career-best six 3-pointers, including 11 points and three 3s during the decisive run. Devin Royal added 16 points for Ohio State (11-8, 3-5 Big Ten), which snapped a three-game skid.

Purdue (15-5, 7-2) entered on a seven-game winning streak and led 59-53 with 7:25 to play. But Ohio State stormed back by making 8

of 12 3s in the second half.

Trey Kaufman-Renn tied his career high with 26 points to lead the Boilermakers. Fletcher Loyer added 15 points while Braden Smith was just 3 of 14 from the field and scored 12.

Kaufman-Renn scored eight straight to get Purdue within 68-67 with 1:01 left, but the Boilermakers never retook the lead.

Ohio State forward Colin White injured his left ankle and spent the second half in a walking boot, and guard John Mobley Jr. missed some time after a hard landing when he was fouled.

TAKEAWAYS

Ohio State: Despite losing five of their last six games

and their early struggles Tuesday, which included a scoring drought of nearly 4 1/2 minutes, the Buckeyes battled back.

Purdue: The Boilermakers lost a big lead, had trouble rebounding and shot 3s poorly.

KEY MOMENT

Parrish’s scoring flurry gave the Buckeyes the lead — and the confidence they needed to close it out.

KEY STATS

Ohio State shot 53.3% from the field and 47.8% on 3s.

NEXT GAME

Purdue hosts Michigan Friday (TV: Live on FOX at 8 p.m.)

PARIS NOTEBOOK

NBA sells tickets in 50+ countries for Spurs-Pacers

BY TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

PARIS — Caitlin Clark turned 23 on Wednesday. And as a birthday gift of sorts, Tyrese Haliburton offered her some more high praise.

Haliburton stars for the Indiana Pacers. Clark stars for the WNBA's Indiana Fever and is that league's reigning rookie of the year (plus is pals with fellow Kansas City Chiefs fan Taylor Swift).

Haliburton and Clark have become fast friends, both complimenting the other on multiple occasions. Haliburton went as far as to say in Paris on Wednesday, on the eve of the first of two San Antonio-Indiana matchups here, that she's become a face of the game.

Not the women's game. The whole game.

“I think when it comes to the game of basketball, she's probably in the top-five most famous people that are playing now, just in general. That includes our league as well,” Haliburton said. “And she handles it with such grace. She's such a cool person. At the end of the day, she's just a girl from Iowa who is just really good at basketball. And it's really cool to see what she does.”

It makes sense that Haliburton and Clark would hit it off. Both are kids from the Midwest, both are the faces of their franchises, both are point guards who can score and shoot from anywhere and, obviously, both now call Indianapolis home. They haven't collaborated on anything big yet, but Haliburton is hopeful that such a pairing happens.

Haliburton says he considers the Fever — not just Clark, the whole organization — to be “rock stars” at the forefront of growing the WNBA.

“Anything that I can do to help, I will. But I don't think she necessarily needs my help,” Haliburton said. “I mean, she's amazing. That group is amazing. To see what they're doing for women's basketball as a whole has been really cool. She's spearheaded that, so I'm just glad to be a part of the journey and watch what she does.”

FUTURE PARIS GAMES

The NBA doesn't announce things too far ahead, but it's safe to guess that more games in Paris are coming in future years.

And if the San Antonio Spurs get asked, they'll jump at the chance.

With French star Victor Wembanyama already cemented as the face of the franchise, the Spurs

With French star Victor Wembanyama already cemented as the face of the franchise, the Spurs — who already had an enormous following in France because of former players like Tony Parker and Boris Diaw — are seeing even more interest here.

— who already had an enormous following in France because of former players like Tony Parker and Boris Diaw — are seeing even more interest here.

Being here this week for a pair of games with Indiana is only strengthening the Spurs' ties with France.

“Any time we have an opportunity to play internationally, we want to be in that rotation,” Spurs CEO R.C. Buford said Wednesday.

The Spurs even arranged for a pop-up shop to happen during this visit, featuring exclusive merchandise, items showcasing Wembanyama and Chris Paul, plus jerseys for team greats like Parker, Manu Ginobili and Tim Duncan.

“It's an expensive trip,” Buford said. “The economics say a single trip probably isn't a big moneymaker. However, our goal is to show the community of France that we're here for the long run.”

GLOBAL GAMES

There will be a lot of French people at these games Thursday and Saturday, as would be expected in Paris.

But these games will also be global — truly global.

The NBA said fans from at least 53 different countries and territories have purchased tickets for the Spurs-Pacers games, a record for any league event anywhere in the world.

These will be the NBA's 96th and 97th games in Europe and the 14th and 15th games in France, all happening in a season that marks the 40th anniversary of the league's inaugural games in Europe — back when the Seattle Supersonics played exhibition games in Germany, Switzerland and Italy against local professional teams.

San Antonio is playing in France for the first time since the preseason in 2006. Indiana is playing in France for the first time.

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	FRIDAY EVENING										
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Skating	U.S. Championships: Women's Free Skate					WAV..
4 WTTV	4		(5:00)	PGA Tour Golf			NCIS: Sydney	Fire "I Do"		S.W.A.T.			CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Skating	U.S. Championships: Women's Free Skate					News
8 WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Penn (N) (SP)	Masters of (SP)		News (N)			News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Shark Tank (N)	20/20					News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Shark Tank (N)	20/20					News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Comm..	Week	Leonardo da Vinci "Painter-God"			BBCN..	
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	TBA		Basketball Michigan at Purdue (N)					FOX19 NOW at 10	
32 WLKY	5	5	(5:00)	PGA Tour Golf			NCIS: Sydney	Fire "I Do"		S.W.A.T.			News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	Penn (N) (SP)	Masters of (SP)		BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..	
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Basketball Michigan at Purdue (N)			WDRB News at 10			
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48 (N)		Cold Case (N)		Cold Case (N)		First48
AMC	29	26	(5:00) 77777 Goodfellas ('90)				77777 Gladiator		Joaquin Phoenix, Russell Crowe.				
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	(20) The Office	Office	Office	Office	Family..	Family..	Family..
DISC	31	38	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Gold Rush (N)		(10) Harpoon (P)	(10) Catch	Gold		
DISN	25	29	Bluey	777 UglyDolls ('19)			Place	Place	Jessie	Jessie	At The Edge		Place
ESPN	32	44	SportsCenter		SportC..		NHL Hockey				X Games (N) (Live)		
FREE	18	40	Movie	77777 Raya and the Last Dragon ('21)					77777 Beauty and the Beast			700Club	
FX	40	28	(4:30) 7 Thor: D...	77777 Thor: Ragnarok ('17) Chris Hemsworth.					7 Thor: Love & Thunder				
HBO	201	17	(10) Update	(55) C.B. Strike			7 Godzilla x Kong: New Empire			Real Time (N)		RealTi..	
MAX	270	73	(10) 77777 Moonlight ('16)				7 Curse of La Llorona		(35) 77777 Backtrack ('15)	Movie			
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	777 Couples Retreat ('09) Vince Vaughn.			(35) 7 Break-Up			
PARSHO	221	16	Movie	(50) 77777 Jack Reacher ('12) Tom Cruise.			The Agency		777 Drive Angry (P)				
TMC	233	74	Movie	777 Black Noise ('23)			77777 Shutter Island ('10)			7 Sasquatch Su...			
TNT	27	43	(4:00) 7 Divergent			Unriva.. / Unriv..		(15) Unrivaled	Unriva..	77777 Transformers ('07)			
USA	26	33	Figure Skating (N) (Live)				WWE Friday Night SmackDown (N) (Live)					Bel-Air	

	Jefferson Switzerland Trimble/ Carroll		SATURDAY EVENING											
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	Chefs	Song	Night's Main Event (N) (Live)				SNL		WAV..	
4 WTTV	4		(4:00) PGA Tour Golf				NCIS "Humbug"		NCIS: Origins		48 Hours (N)		CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2		News (N)		NBCN..	Let'sT..	Night's Main Event (N) (Live)				SNL		News	
8 WISH	12		News	iCRIM..	FamFe..	FamFe..	Roger Moore (N)				News (N)		News	
9 WCPO	23		(5:30) NBA Basketball				NBA	NBA Basketball						News
11 WHAS	11	4	(5:30) NBA Basketball				NBA	NBA Basketball						News
15 WKPC	13		Antiques		TimFa..	RedGr..	Kentuc..	Kentuc..	777 Soapdish ('91) Sally Field.				Austin	
19 WXIX	10		(5:30) Wm. Basketball			Hoops	Basketball Connecticut at Xavier				FOX19 (N)		Special	
32 WLKY	5	5	(4:00) PGA Tour Golf				NCIS "Humbug"		NCIS: Origins		48 Hours (N)		News	
34 WBKI	7	7	(4:30) To Be Announced			TBA	Roger Moore (N)				FamFe..	FamFe..	House..	
41 WDRB	8	9	(5:30) Wm. Basketball			Hoops	Basketball Connecticut at Xavier				News (N)		News	
A&E	28	36	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	
AMC	29	26	(4:30) 77777 Gladiator				77777 Independence Day ('96) Will Smith.							Movie
COM	45	59	777 Grown Ups 2 ('13)					777 Grown Ups ('10)				777 Grown Ups 2 ('13)		
DISC	31	38	Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition X		Expedi..	
DISN	25	29	StuGo	Big City	Big City	Big City	7 Hotel Transylvania 3			StuGo	StuGo	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	
ESPN	32	44	(4:30) B..	Basketball Houston at Kansas (N)			Basketball Tennessee at Auburn			X Games (N)				
FREE	18	40	(5:20) 77777 Tangled ('10)		77777 Moana ('16) Auli'i Cravalho.				77777 Lilo & Stitch ('02)					
FX	40	28	(4:30) 7 Pirates of the Caribbean: A...			77777 Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides							Movie	
HBO	201	17	(6:05) 7 Scott Pilgrim vs. the World					777 Your Monster ('24) (P)		(45) 7 Ghosts of Girlfriends Past				
MAX	270	73	(10) The Knick		(6:05) The Knick		777 The Kill Team ('19)			77777 Dream Scenario			Movie	
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..	
PARMT	35	41	Movie	(6:35) 77777 The Hangover Part II ('11)					77777 The Hangover Part III ('13)					
PARSHO	221	16	(5:50) 77777 The Big Short ('15)				77777 The Hateful Eight ('15) Samuel L. Jackson.							Movie
TMC	233	74	(15) 77777 Drop Zone ('94)					77777 The Infiltrator ('16)				(10) 77777 The Gambler		
TNT	27	43	(4:45) 77777 Transformers ('07)					Wrestling: Collision (N) (Live)			777 The Hunger Games			
USA	26	33	(2:30) L..	Chrisley	9-1-1		Figure Skating				9-1-1 "Capsized"		9-1-1	

			SUNDAY EVENING										
	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	7 How to Train Your Dragon				Dateline NBC (N)				WAV..
4 WTTV	4		NFL	Football	Buffalo Bills at Kansas City Chiefs (N)				TBA	Watson (N) (P)		CBS4..	
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	7 How to Train Your Dragon				Dateline NBC (N)				News
8 WISH	12		News	Inside..	77777 Two Weeks Notice ('02)				Whose	Whose	News	Sports	News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	Videos		Videos	77777 The Proposal ('09) Sandra Bullock.				News	
11 WHAS	11	4	World..	News	Videos		Videos	7 Beauty and the Beast ('17)				News	
15 WKPC	13		Last../	KeepUp	Last Tango		Miss Scarlet (N)	Creatures (N)		Vienna (N) (SF)		Velvet	
19 WXIX	10		Postga..	Jeopar..	Burgers		Krapo..	Simpso..	Univer..	-North	Krapo..	FOX19 (N)	FOX19
32 WLKY	5	5	NFL	Football	Buffalo Bills at Kansas City Chiefs (N)				TBA	Watson (N) (P)		News	
34 WBKI	7	7	BigBa..	BigBa..	77777 Two Weeks Notice ('02)				Whose	Whose	The Grand		ModF..
41 WDRB	8	9	Postga..	Griffith	Burgers		Krapo..	Simpso..	Univer..	-North	Krapo..	News (N) (Live)	News
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		First48
AMC	29	26	(4:30) 7 World ...		77777 I Am Legend ('07)				Mayfair (N)		Sanctuary (N)		Mayfair
COM	45	59	(5:30) 77777 Just Go With It ('11)				77777 The Wedding Singer ('98)				Family..	Family..	Family..
DISC	31	38	Homestead Rescue (N)				Homestead Rescue (N)				Homestead		Harmo..
DISN	25	29	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	77777 Toy Story 3 ('10)		Place	Place	StuGo	StuGo	
ESPN	32	44	(5:00) Wrestling		X Games Aspen 2025 (N)				SportC..	NFL (N) (Live)		Sports..	
FREE	18	40	(5:15) 77777 Up ('09)		(25) 77777 Coco ('17)		Anthony Gonzalez.		(55) 77777 Encanto ('21)				
FX	40	28	(5:00) 77777 The Avengers ('12)		77777 Captain America: Civil War ('16)		Chris Evans.						
HBO	201	17	(10) 7 Keeping Up With the Joneses				77777 Uncharted ('22)				77777 Prisoners ('13)		
MAX	270	73	(5:40) 7 Everything Everywhere All...				77777 A Private War		(50) 77777 Ondine ('09)				
NEWSNTN	20	20	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation		NewsN..
PARMT	35	41	Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		BarRe..
PARSHO	221	16	(5:00) 7 Slingshot		The Agency		The Agency		The Agency		Dexter: Sin (N)		Agency
TMC	233	74	7 Confessions of a Dangerous Mind				77777 The Salvation				(35) 77777 Mr. Brooks ('07)		
TNT	27	43	(4:00) 7 Hunger ...		7 Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1				7 Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Pa...				
USA	26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..

Winter storm forces NBA, college rescheduling across the South

BY BRETT MARTEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — The NBA and multiple college basketball conferences postponed games in response to winter weather that broke snowfall records in some southern states and coated others with a mix of snow and ice.

Wednesday night's NBA contest between the Milwaukee Bucks and the Pelicans was called off a day after the storm dumped about a foot of snow in New Orleans — a subtropical city with very little in the way of experience with, or equipment for, clearing large amounts of snow.

In nearby Baton Rouge, LSU's fifth-ranked women's basketball team was unable to fly on Wednesday to Columbia, South Carolina, so the Southeastern Conference chose to postpone the Tigers' game at the No. 2 Gamecocks from Thursday night until Friday evening.

Meanwhile, the Sun Belt Conference cited "hazardous travel conditions" in rescheduling four men's basketball games.

Georgia Southern's home game against Coastal Carolina, and Louisiana-Lafayette's home game against Texas State were

moved from Wednesday to Thursday. Two games originally scheduled for Thursday — Southern Mississippi at Troy and South Alabama at Louisiana-Monroe — both were moved to Monday.

The NBA did not immediately announce when the Bucks-Pelicans game would be made up, and it was unclear if the Bucks would be able to make it to Miami in time for a game against the Heat on Thursday night.

The Bucks beat the winter weather in New Orleans by flying in Monday, a day earlier than usual, in the event that road conditions became safe enough to hold the game at the 18,000-seat downtown Smoothie King Center.

But temperatures

remained in the 30s on Wednesday, many main highways and bridges across south Louisiana were closed by authorities and surface roads throughout New Orleans were coated with ice.

Schools and businesses throughout the area also remained closed on Wednesday.

Louis Armstrong International Airport canceled all commercial departing flights on Wednesday, making it likely that the Bucks would have to travel to Miami on the day of the game — if they could get out in time.

An NBA official said there were no immediate plans to postpone Thursday's game, but a decision to play ultimately would hinge on whether the

Bucks can fly out of New Orleans in time.

The Pelicans were scheduled to play in Memphis on Friday night.


After breaking snow records in Texas and Louisiana on Tuesday, the storm continued to spread heavy snow, sleet and freezing rain across parts of the Florida Panhandle, Georgia and the coastal Carolinas on Wednesday.

LSU spokesman Michael Bonnette said the uni-

versity decided to cancel classes through Thursday because of road closures and wintry conditions on surface roads in the area. But athletics officials were confident the women's basketball team would be able

to fly out of Baton Rouge on Thursday.


LEGAL NOTICE



Crown Castle USA, Inc. is proposing to construct a 47 ft Pole telecommunications facility in the vicinity of 3288 Clifty Dr., Madison, Jefferson County, Indiana 47250 (38° 44' 55.51"N 85° 26' 59.03"W). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 039195-PR, EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at (617) 715-1822.

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LEGAL NOTICE
JEFFERSON COUNTY,
INDIANA PLAN
COMMISSION
Notice is hereby given that the Jefferson County, Indiana Plan Commission will meet on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 5:30 P.M., at the Surveyor's Office, 315 Jefferson St., Courthouse Annex Bldg., Madison, Indiana. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss updates on Solar Ordinances as well as a Zoning Enforcement. The Plan Commission may consider any other business that comes before it at this date and time. BY ORDER OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA PLAN COMMISSION. By: Taylor Baulac, Secretary, Jefferson County Plan Commission.

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LEGAL NOTICE



LEGAL NOTICE
JEFFERSON COUNTY,
INDIANA, BOARD OF
ZONING APPEALS
Notice is hereby given that the Jefferson County, Indiana, Board of Zoning Appeals will meet Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 5:00 o'clock, P.M., at the Surveyor's Office, 315 Jefferson St., Courthouse Annex Bldg., Madison, Indiana. The purpose of the meeting is to elect 2025 officers and hear an application for a Special Exception and a Use of Variance, filed by Christopher Leighton, property located at 8112 NUS 421, Madison, IN, 47250, parcel number 39-03-23-000-013.000-010, Monroe Township, AG District. The Board of Zoning Appeals may consider any other business that comes before it at this date and time. BY ORDER OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA, BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS. By: Taylor Baulac, Secretary, Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals

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Silver: NBA still talking about expanding footprint in Europe

BY TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

PARIS — The NBA is still exploring ways to expand its role in European basketball and those talks with FIBA and other stakeholders will continue, Commissioner Adam Silver said Thursday.

That means there’s no deal — yet. But Silver, speaking before the start of the NBA Paris Games between San Antonio and Indiana, gave no indication that the league is softening its stance that more can be done. Meetings were had in Paris this week, and those talks will continue in the coming months.

“We are looking very closely to see if there’s an opportunity to professionalize the game to another level here, to create a larger commercial opportunity,” Silver said. “And not just because commercial opportunity suggests you can grow revenue, but because we believe that with markets, if you can create proper incentives, you can get significant additional investment. And ultimately, that’s the way to grow the game at all levels.”

In August, during the Paris Olympics, Silver said in an interview with The Associated Press that the league had started ramping up talks with FIBA, the sport’s global gov-

erning body, on adding either an annual competition in Europe or even having an NBA-operated league.

Similar talks have been taking place for some time. But these conversations are about the vision that the NBA and FIBA evidently share about the potential of the game in Europe from both a commercial and competitive standpoint.

“We have no agreements in place,” Silver said. “We’re not ready to make any additional announcements and we’ll continue to learn all we can and to see if there is a path to move forward.”

Silver said he believes the NBA remains “on track” in the process. He said the league’s governors would be briefed further at their next scheduled meeting in March. Thinking of Pop

Silver used his introductory remarks on Thursday to ensure that he sent well-wishes to San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich, who has been away from his team for nearly three months while recovering from a stroke.

Silver raved about San Antonio’s commitment to seeing the game through a global lens, something the Spurs were doing long before Victor Wembanyama came to the NBA in 2023.

MADISON

FROM PAGE B1

“I would say experience, but I’m right there with them, too,” said Gibson, who is in his first year as coach. “I got to teach them a little better on how to handle the pressure, especially in the last four minutes of the game.”

Madison went 14-for-26 (54%) from the 3-point line and 20-for-46 overall (44%) for the game. True continued his red-hot senior season with 21 points, all coming on 7-of-9 shooting from beyond the arc, while Harden also had 21 points on 5-of-12 shooting on 3s. Zachary Vinup added eight points on the inside and Mason

Davis had six assists and five points.

Fresh, a 6-foot-4 junior, scored 27 points and had nine rebounds to lead Charlestown. Parker Odle added 13 points.

Madison returns to action with a pair of road games this weekend, heading to Rushville on Friday and to New Washington on Saturday. The Cubs then host Scottsburg next Wednesday.



LEGAL NOTICE

Legal Notice

Hanover College, 517 Ball Drive, Hanover, Indiana 47243, is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of the Construction Stormwater General Permit to discharge stormwater from construction activities associated with the Veterinary Teaching Center at 4025 W SR 56, Hanover, Indiana 47243 (SE Quarter, Section 1, T3N, R9E and SW Quarter, Section 6, T3N, R10E, Hanover Township, Jefferson County). Run-off from the project site will discharge to waterways leading to Happy Valley Creek and then to the Ohio River. Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to Kenton J. Pardue, EI of Bledsoe Riggert Cooper James, 1351 W. Tapp Road, Bloomington, Indiana, 47403.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Switzerland County School Corporation 2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Regular Monthly Board Meetings are scheduled for every third Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Administration Building located at 1040 W. Main Street, Vevay, IN 47043 (with Executive Sessions and Board Committee Meetings to be held and announced as necessary) unless otherwise noted.. The 2025 schedule is as follows:

- Monday, 1/13/2025: Re-Organization/Board of Finance Meeting/Regular School Board Meeting
- Monday, 2/17/2025:
- Wednesday, 2/19/2025: Working Session
- Monday, 3/17/2025: Working Session Following Regular Board Meeting
- Monday, 4/21/2025: Working Session Following Regular Board Meeting
- Monday, 5/19/2025:
- Monday, 6/16/2025:
- Monday, 7/21/2025:
- Monday, 8/18/2025: Working Session Following Regular Board Meeting
- Monday, 9/15/2025:
- Monday, 10/20/2025: Working Session Following Regular Board Meeting
- Monday, 11/17/2025:
- Monday, 12/15/2025:

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AUCTION

REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

Estate of Jonas N. Schlabach

Saturday Feb. 22nd, 2025 @ 10:00 A.M.

2928 South 950 West, Lexington, IN 47138

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SUNDAY Jan. 26th, 2025 from 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

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Watch future papers or go to Auctionzip.com for complete add and pictures.

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